

Hafa Adai!

8 killed in deadly California boat fire; 26 missing. PAGE 14
Dorian triggers flooding in Bahamas; at least 5 dead. PAGE 16

75¢

Saipan Tribune

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Tinian debris shipped to Saipan, then on to Korea

About 96 cubic yard of metal debris from Super Typhoon Yutu are shipped from Tinian to Saipan daily, to be processed by FSM Recycling.

IVA MAURIN

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

TINIAN—Tinian will soon be shipping some Super Typhoon Yutu debris to Saipan, but FSM Recycling assures that none of the debris will enter the Marpi landfill.

"The debris will not enter the [Marpi] landfill at all. ... No landfill. These will head to my yard on Saipan. We [will] final process it and pack it up, and load it to a container and ship it to Korea," said FSM Recycling owner Eric Cruz in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

He assured that the trash shipment is composed of tin metal roofs that got blown away from homes and other

structures on the island during Super Typhoon Yutu.

Cruz said the Federal Emergency Management Agency

selected his company to lead the removal of roughly 6,000 cubic yard of metals from the

See DEBRIS on Page 4

'\$200M needed to replace old water lines'



By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. needs between \$150 million and \$200 million to replace old water lines on Saipan in order to address water leaks and lower its non-revenue water loss, according to CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho.

» Non-revenue water loss at 61.4% in July

In his report to the CUC board during last week's meeting, Camacho said that CUC's non-revenue water loss on Saipan in July is down to 61.4%, but the overall goal is to reduce it to 100%. In order

See \$200M on Page 4

9th Circuit drops IPI's appeal

» All court actions filed by IPI, IPI subsidiaries, CCC also dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has dismissed Imperial Pacific

International (CNMI) LLC's appeal of the U.S. District Court for the NMI's ruling that allowed the Commonwealth Casino Commission to disclose IPI's confidential

income tax information.

As this developed, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed yesterday in its entirety all the court actions filed by IPI, its two subsidiaries, and CCC.

See IPI on Page 4

OPA: NMI finances improved in FY 2018

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor's single audit on the CNMI government's finances in fiscal year 2018 saw an improve-

ment from where it was in 2017, marking the second year in a row that the numbers have shown an improvement.

The OPA, in its annual single audit on the CNMI government for fiscal year 2018,

noted a significant decrease in deficit net position of over \$10 million.

"For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2018, the CNMI improved its net position by

See OPA on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Japanese national Kensei Kamiunten, who was born in San Roque in 1932, considers Saipan home.

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BUSINESS

Jang Gun Restaurant relocates to Coral Tree Avenue in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

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LIFE & STYLE

Renee Zellweger knows what it's like to be a public target, having lived in the spotlight.

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Local

Coming to Saipan is coming home

Japanese national Kensei Kamiunten was born in San Roque in 1932 before World War II broke out. This is why he considers Saipan home and comes back to the CNMI as often as possible.

"I have always felt that Saipan is my first home and Okinawa second. ... That is why the desire to come home every year is strong," said the 87-year-old.

Kamiunten is a member of the Micronesia Repatriation Association from Okinawa. Every year, he and several members that have close ties to Saipan come here to perform "ireisai" or memorial service to the many Japanese families that died on Saipan and Tinian during the war.

For Kamiunten, though, the annual trip to the CNMI is more personal. "I come back because my heart belongs here. ... Whenever I am here, I go back to San Roque and walk on the same streets that I walked on as a child. A lot has changed but not the glimpses of memories that I have of the past," he said.

Over the years, he has maintained his relationship with his childhood friends. "There was Gregorio Camacho, Joe Tude-



BEA CABRERA

Kensei Kamiunten, 87, has moved on from the ravages of war but not from Saipan, which is the place he calls his first home.

la and Santiago Camacho. They have all passed away but I stay close to Gregorio's son and his family," he added.

The Marianas was occupied by the Japanese after World War I. When U.S. forces came to Saipan on June 15, 1944, to claim the islands, Kamiunten's life changed. "When war broke out, I was more scared of the Japanese soldiers," he said. "I saw people lost and displaced, people jumped from cliffs and my paradise was slowly getting destroyed. ... I lost my father and siblings and, at 12

years old, we were told to return to Okinawa."

This year is the last official visit of the MRA to Saipan but Kamiunten hopes that the younger generation will continue the tradition of visiting the CNMI.

"If I am still in good health, I would love to come back next year, the following year and for as long as I can. ... I hope the younger generation would continue trying to create an island without a war, a world with no war and continue to pray for peace," Kamiunten said. *(Bea Cabrera)*

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Suspect arrested in Gualo Rai burglary

A man was arrested Friday for allegedly stealing a generator from the DCBNC Technology Co. in Gualo Rai.

The suspect, Jefferey Castro Aldan, 48, was arrested after



Aldan

he was identified in a surveillance tape.

The Department of Public Safety

received a 911 call reporting the burglary and theft incident last Friday, Aug. 30, 2019, at approximately 10:07am. Officers arrived on scene at about 10:14am.

The caller, who is an employee of the company, told the responding police officers that that he noticed a broken padlock to the main entrance and reviewed the surveillance footage, where he saw an unknown male individual removing the company generator.

At the scene officers noticed a cut padlock at the main entrance, and noticed three more padlocks that had been cut, which led to three separate rooms in the premises. While officers made their way to the surveillance room they noticed three surveillance cameras had been tampered with. While reviewing the surveillance footage, officers observed an unknown male individual, wearing a brown T-shirt holding a bolt cutter while walking through the hallway with a black generator on Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2019, around 3pm. On a separate security monitor, officers noticed a suspicious white Toyota Corolla leaving the scene shortly after.

A description of the individual and the vehicle was given to other officers in the area and Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives and crime scene technicians were summoned to the scene.

At 3:15pm, a separate officer met with a group of individuals who identified the vehicle and the unknown individual in the surveillance photo as Aldan. Another group of individuals also confirmed the photo as

Aldan, and stated that he resides in Papago.

While patrolling in Papago, at about 4:15pm, detectives located a vehicle that

matched the description from the burglary case and saw a black generator.

At about 4:31pm, Aldan was advised of his Miranda

rights and placed under arrest. While being transported to the Department of Corrections, Aldan confessed to the burglary and theft inci-

dent at the DCBNC Technology Co.

On Aug. 30, 2019, at about 4:19pm, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Cama-

cho signed the arrest warrant for Aldan with bail set at \$500,000. Aldan was served at the Department of Corrections. (PR)

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NMI enters pact with states on disaster response

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

The NMI government effectively entered into an emergency pact with the enactment of legislation that allows such a pact to be made with other participating

states to allow for a smoother response to disasters.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres enacted yesterday Public Law 21-7, a legislation introduced by Rep. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan) that seeks to have the CNMI participate in the

Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

The compact opens up resources from the 50 participating states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands if needed in response to a disaster,

whether it be natural, technological, man-made, or even an enemy attack.

However, this benefit comes with a cost.

The CNMI government will have to review individual state hazards analyses and deter-

mine all those potential emergencies other states might also suffer; review party states' individual emergency plans and develop a plan which will determine the mechanism for the interstate management and provision of assistance concerning any potential emergency; develop interstate procedures to fill any gaps and to resolve any inconsistencies or overlaps in existing or developed plans, among several other responsibilities.

The Legislature believes that the cost "heavily outweighs the benefits."

Effectively, the EMAC establishes a firm legal foundation for sharing resources between states. Once conditions for providing assistance to a requesting state are set, the terms constitute a legally binding agreement.

"The EMAC legislation solves the problems of liability and responsibilities of cost and allows for credentials, licenses, and certifications to be honored across state lines," the EMAC website noted.

"EMAC is implemented within the State Emergency Management Agency on behalf of the governor of the state. This provides a consistent and coordinated response across the nation."

"This legislation...paves the way for quicker mobilization of resources in the event that another disaster comes our way," Castro said in a statement. "The signing of this bill now designates the CNMI as a member of the [EMAC], a binding agreement between states and territories which enables them to share resources during natural and man-made disasters, including terrorism."

Castro cited Super Typhoon Yutu, Typhoon Mangkhut, and Typhoon Soudelor as recent situations where EMAC participation could have benefited the CNMI.

"...This compact...is beneficial not just to bring our islands out of the stresses of recovery, but to hardwire and reinforce our infrastructure and our communities to be further disaster-ready," he said.

DEBRIS

From Page 1

debris center being run by the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Public Works on the island.

The facility belongs to the Department of Public Lands, handled by the Tinian Mayor's Office operations and is not intended to be a permanent dumpsite but just an emergency site for disaster.

The company ships roughly about six container a week out to Saipan, through Tinian Shipping. The deadline for them to complete the project is Oct. 26, 2019.

"What we do is pick the debris as is, load them on the ship, and move it to my yard on Saipan. There, we process it, pack it, and ship it off-island to Korea [where there are end buyers]," Cruz said.

Tinian Shipping owner Jack Manglona said they were subcontracted to handle the transportation of the cargo. From the port, they ship the debris to the FSM facility on Saipan with their vessel, where it gets sorted and smashed to cubes, placed in containers and shipped out.

While there is another roll-on/roll-off, drop door boat that



Six-thousand cubic yards of metal Super Typhoon Yutu debris at the Debris Center on Tinian wait to be shipped to Saipan.

IYA MAURIN

comes to Saipan and Tinian, Tinian Shipping is the only one in the island that has the facility to manage and handle scrap metal.

"We only collect what the federal office tells us through the contract. Ninety-six cubic yards per load, traveling 3.5 hours to Saipan (one way), then offload (clean, sanitize, etc.) which takes about half an hour. It takes us about two hours to load, then leave Saipan heading back to Tinian fully loaded with commercial load," Chris Pangelinan, also of Tinian Shipping, said,

in explaining their process of transport.

Pangelinan also said that the people of Tinian are doing all they can, with the help of either the federal government or anything else, to keep the island from getting contaminated. "When these stuff [metal tin roofs] rust into the soil, the land would become bad. We can't farm it anymore," he added.

Tinian Shipping ships watermelons and vegetables from Tinian to Saipan, but is currently not able to do so due to the shipment of the debris.

"For the next two months, we won't be able to do that. It's one of those balancing acts. ...When this [the shipping of debris] ends, our customers might have already found alternative routes. We may have lost that clientele forever. But we are concerned about helping the people of Tinian," said Pangelinan.

The end goal is to get the debris off the island.

FSM Recycling ships the debris every day to Saipan, and these get shipped to Korea Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

\$200M

From Page 1

to do that, CUC would need more funding.

"There are a number of lines out there that have to be replaced," he said. In fact, there are water lines that are 50 years old.

And, based on some of the assessments that have been done, it could easily amount to between \$150 million and \$200 million, Camacho added. He underscored the importance for CUC to invest in its water system by allocating more funding.

If CUC has the amount it needs to replace old water lines, there will be "bigger, huge jumps" and quicker lowering of water loss, Camacho said.

Camacho said CUC has been working closely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and others in addressing the water loss problem.

He said investment in the water system is included in CUC's five-year plan.

Camacho disclosed that they have been considering, like many utilities agencies, to get a large bond of over 30 years and "pay for this large system and make those investment."

"We're having hundreds of leaks, particularly now with the great pressure on the system and, with most of the waterlines now filled, that is causing a lot of pressure," he said.

He said there is a need to have a larger investment and undertake larger projects. "That's what we are trying to do and you will see that in our five-year plan," Camacho said.

Camacho said they want to

keep the 24-hour water supply on the island.

CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore said under new projects, they are using PVC pipes that have a lifespan of 40 years. In the U.S. mainland, the lifespan of such pipes is 100 years.

"It's just the type of soils that we're in," Gilmore said, adding that they are trying to improve the bedding of the pipes because they had trouble with the quality of the installation of those pipes in the past. With the improved installation of PVC pipes, Gilmore said they expect the pipes to last longer.

Camacho believes that the recent hiring of Joseph Carlson as CUC's chief engineer for water and wastewater would enable CUC to lower its water loss numbers.

Prior to Super Typhoon Yutu, CUC's water loss was down to 50%. That went up to 70% after the typhoon.

When CUC board member Ike Perez pointed out that a water loss of 61.4% is still very high and not even an average, Camacho said many parts of the water system is over 50 years old.

"We are addressing those," he said, adding that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is helping CUC with the funding for this.

Camacho said CUC needs to set an internal plan to finish replacing those old system.

CUC board vice chair Weston Deleon Guerrero said he believes that non-revenue water percentage has never gone down below 50 percent in the past 15 years. He encouraged CUC to bring the current loss down to at least 50%.

IPI

From Page 1

In an order Friday, the Ninth Circuit dismissed IPI's appeal as per to the stipulated agreement filed by IPI and CCC. The Ninth Circuit said the parties shall bear their own costs and fees.

In an order yesterday, pursuant to the parties' stipulation or agreement Manglona dismissed with prejudice all the court actions by IPI, IPI subsidiaries Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC, and CCC.

That means the parties

can no longer re-file their court actions.

Each party shall bear its own attorney's fees and costs.

Manglona dismissed IPI's lawsuit against CCC; IPI's subsidiaries as intervenors in IPI's lawsuit against CCC; and CCC's counterclaim against IPI.

Last Aug. 26, the Ninth Circuit denied IPI's motion to stay the U.S. District Court for the NMI's preliminary injunction order that allowed CCC to disclose IPI's confidential income tax information that is the subject of a legal dispute.

Last Aug. 6, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona

ruled that IPI and its subsidiaries have not met their burden for a preliminary injunction.

IPI and its subsidiaries have asked the federal court to prevent the disclosure of unredacted financial statements because, in their view, those statements contain confidential information protected from disclosure by the CNMI tax code and the Open Government Act, and by guarantees of privacy in the U.S. and Commonwealth constitutions.

IPI filed a petition for preliminary injunction prohibiting CCC from releasing the unredacted financial statements while this case is pending.

activities were approximately \$379.9 million, which included expenses payments made or due to autonomous agencies.

"These expenses were funded in part by program revenues of \$130.7 million and general revenues of \$277.6 million. The difference between total revenues of \$408.3 million and total expenses of \$397.9 million improved the CNMI's deficit net position by \$10.5 million," the OPA report said.

While deficit net positions went down, OPA noted an 81% increase in unassigned fund deficits in fiscal year 2018.

"At Sept. 30, 2018, the general fund reported an unassigned fund deficit of \$80.3 million. This is in 81% increase from prior year's \$44.3 million fund deficit," the report stated.

Additionally, OPA further reported that budgetary projections were in line with ac-

tual numbers, even more than projected.

"...Actual expenditures were higher than final projected estimates by 13.7%, or 31.6 million," OPA reported, adding that transfers to and from other funds and long-term debt proceeds were not included in calculations.

For those interested in looking at the 105-page report, it is available on the OPA website at www.opacnmi.com.

OPA

From Page 1

16.9%, or \$10.5 million, to a lowered deficit net position of \$51.5 million," said the OPA report, which was recently released. "...The results indicate that the CNMI's financial condition, as a whole, improved another year."

During the fiscal year, CNMI expenses for governmental



Saipan Lions Club painted the walls and repaired the tin roofs of Koblerville Elementary School to get it ready for students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lions Club helps KES prep for school year

Koblerville Elementary School students started classes yesterday with a campus that had just been beautified by the Saipan Lions Club.

The Lions painted the school last Aug. 24-25. The group had 49 volunteers on Saturday and 61 on Sunday.

"Some schools are still in a dire situation [and] needing any assistance they can get from the community," said Lions Club region assistant secretary Bhiya Canadalla. "We Serve" is the Lions Club's motto

and this is what we are doing. When there's a need, there's a Lion."

School principal Naomi Nishimura reached out to the Lions Clubs International, Region 2 District 204 to ask for help in painting the walls, repairing the tin roofs, and in removing the roof in front of the stage.

Marketing Communication chair Mario Mayuga said the Lions are helping the community, while also being visible to entice others to do the same. *(Iva Maurin)*



Saipan Centennial Lions Club, 2018 ICC

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Four juveniles arrested in theft of vehicle

Police officers doing routine patrol on Monday tried to make a traffic violation stop on a vehicle that later turned out to have been stolen. The incident led to the arrest of four juveniles suspected of carjacking the vehicle.

The officers were conducting routine patrol along Cha-

lan Pale Arnold Road in Chalan Laulau on Monday, Sept. 2, 2019, at approximately 3:12am, when they noticed a vehicle traveling north with one working tail light. The officers turned on their car's blue lights and siren to do a violator stop. Instead of stopping, the vehicle swerved to the oppo-

site side of the road near the Piggy House Restaurant and came to a complete stop. Four persons were seen hopping out of the vehicle and fleeing on foot toward McDonald's.

Additional officers arrived to help look for the four suspects. After apprehending the first suspect, officers

learned that the group had been walking in Garapan when they came upon an unlocked vehicle with the keys still in the ignition.

By 5:11am, all four suspects had been arrested and brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for clearance before being brought to the Department of Corrections juvenile detention center where they

were booked and detained.

At about 9am that same day, the Department of Public Safety received a 911 call reporting a theft of vehicle in Garapan. After the caller described the vehicle, he or she was advised to visit the station. By 9:55am, the vehicle was returned to the rightful owner.

At about 7:43pm, Superior

Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set bail at \$5,000 for each of the defendants. One juvenile was charged with stealing a vehicle; the other three were charged with stealing a vehicle and violating their pretrial release orders.

The police report did not indicate the ages of the four suspects, nor their previous cases. *(PR/Saipan Tribune)*

Cop charged with stealing candy makes plea deal

A police officer, who has been charged with stealing snacks at a gas station in Susupe has signed a plea agreement with the CNMI government.

The change of plea hear-

ing will be on Monday, Sept. 9, at 10am before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

If the judge does not accept the plea deal, the bench trial in

the case will proceed that same day, Monday. In an order yesterday, Camacho ordered the parties to come prepared for trial.

Under the plea deal, Koji Maurice N. Taisacan will plead

guilty to theft. In exchange, the Office of the Attorney General will recommend a sentence of imprisonment of one year, all suspended.

The OAG will also recommend placing the defendant under one year of supervised

probation and made to pay a \$200 fine, \$25 court costs, and \$120 probation fee.

Taisacan will also be required to pay Shell Gas Station \$2.45 in restitution for the Starbucks drink that was never recovered. He will also complete 50 hours of community service.

According to court records,

Taisacan took two candy bars and a Starbucks drink, valued at less than \$250, from the gas station on June 12, 2019.

Charles McDonald is counsel for the defendant. Assistant attorney general J. Robert Glass Jr. is counsel for the CNMI government. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Cepeda says NMC staff doing OK despite challenges

Despite the typhoon damage and the shaky financial situation of the Northern Marianas College, NMC Board of Regents chair Charles Cepeda said that the college's faculty and staff have done a great job, considering.

This comes in the wake of news of a 12% increase in NMC's enrollment for the 2019 fall semester.

"When Super Typhoon Yutu hit the NMC campus, we anticipated a reduction of enrollment and when we heard about the increased enrollment, we were just extremely happy with the amount of work that the NMC staff have done to retain students and promote the college," Cepeda said.

Cepeda credits NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico for his efforts to rebuild the campus by working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency by applying for grants and with retaining students for this semester.

"We're all waiting for FEMA funds [to be disbursed] and other grants are currently in the process of being evaluated," he said.

Cepeda is confident that the NMC administration will get all the work needed to get the FEMA funding and grants for the reconstruction of the campus. "It just takes a matter of time for these [funds to be disbursed] for this new project," he said.

As for the current austerity measures that NMC is experiencing, Cepeda said that NMC will end these measures once the CNMI central government makes good on what's due the college. "These [austerity] measures are affecting the whole community and the NMC is doing its part in cutting back on costs," he added.

Last Aug. 26, Eliptico reported that NMC has 1,276 students enrolled for the fall 2019 semester. *(Marc A. Venus)*


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SUBMISSION DATE: October 16, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"MARPI LANDFILL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT WILL BE HELD ON **September 30, 2019 AT 9:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME** AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE Marpi Landfill WALK THROUGH.


QUESTIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 10, 2019**. THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND WILL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
 SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S


**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID**


**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW19-ITB-016**

SUBMISSION DATE: September 23, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Apengahg St. and Ghilis St. Road and Drainage Improvement"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.



THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **September 6, 2019**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 12, 2019** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
 SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST OF PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP19-BECQ/DCRM-127**

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 04, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"PHASE 1: COMPREHENSIVE DESIGN FOR JEFFREYS BEACH BOARDWALK PROJECT FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIROMENTAL COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISON OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO **MR. RICH SALAS** BY EMAIL AT rsalas@dcrm.gov.mp. **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 23, 2019**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PERSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ELI D. CABRERA
 ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S


**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**


P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: August 23, 2019 • CLOSING DATE: September 09, 2019
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2019-005	CDBG-DR Planning and Program Finance Manager	UNGRADED \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00-per annum

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
 Corporate Director


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**


**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB 19-CHCC/IT-MIHI-002**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 06, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM



"IT EQUIPMENT - COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/MATERNAL & INFANT HEALTH INITIATIVE"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/INVITATION TO BID (ITB) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
 CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA
 CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 19-DPS-126-(A) CIF Rota & (B) CIF Tinian**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PURCHASE OF ONE (1) SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE FOR DPS-ROTA BRANCH (A) AND ONE (1) SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE FOR DPS-TINIAN BRANCH (B) UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
 COMMISSIONER, DPS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Summer officially ends with students trooping to schools

By **MARC A. VENUS**
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System kicked off the start of classes yesterday with an expected

heavy traffic going in and out of many public schools.

Roads going to Koblerville Elementary School were filled with cars dropping off students at both KES and Hop-

wood Middle School. Traffic in that area became controlled at around 8am, with Department of Public Safety officers directing the flow of cars entering and exiting the schools.

Education Commissioner Glenn Muña said the traffic congestions in schools were expected and many parents prefer to walk their children to their classes.

"We saw many smiling faces—teachers were excited to see their students and students were anxious to meet their teachers," he said.

MHS' experience with traffic

issues in prior years helped the school's staff resolve the issue, according to incoming principal Eric Evangelista. "All this staff, including myself, helped direct cars to their designated areas and, thankfully, the traffic flowed smoothly," he said.

The first days of school are expected to be the most hectic throughout the school year. According to Hopwood principal Rizalina Liwag, the school had about 81 new students as of yesterday and are expecting more to register for the entirety of this week.

One challenge that PSS will be facing this school year is the double sessions happening to five of its schools: Francisco M. Middle School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, San Vicente Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, and Oleai Elementary School.

Despite this, FMS principal Cherlyn Cabrera intends to keep her students active throughout the school year. Yesterday, for its beginning ceremony, Cabrera hosted a push-up competition between school staff and the students as a means to introduce the students to the new school year.

"Despite the challenges we face, we will try our best to accommodate the needs of our students," Liwag said.

Bringing joy to kids on first day of school

By **IVA MAURIN**
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Many of Saipan's elementary school students were greeted on their first day of school yesterday by cartoon characters such as the Cookie Monster and Mickey Mouse.

With the aim to start the school season in a fun way, the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs partnered with the Lady Diann Torres Foundation to have cartoon characters welcoming the students to their classes.

Monique Sablan, the special assistant for Youth Affairs, said that staff of the Youth Affairs Office dressed up as different Sesame Street characters.

She said the costumes were provided by the Lady Diann Torres Foundation.

"We are there to support and show the kids that they can have a good time, and that they can have a great first day," Sablan said.

Youth Affairs went to San Vicente Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Oleai Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, Kagman Elementary School, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, and Garapan Elementary School.

The "first day in school activity" was a partnership with the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs.

Sablan also wants children to know that the Youth Affairs Center in Gualo Rai is open after school, and that OYA staff can also help if they need help with homework.

Last summer, from June 24 to Aug. 1, the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs taught over a hundred kids culinary arts, environmental conservation, arts and crafts, and mu-

sic and arts through its Summer Program at its Gualo Rai Youth Learning Center and Chalan Kanoa Manho-ben Center.

After the Summer Program, Youth Affairs shifted to worksheet activities in the morning to challenge the kids to get their minds going again in preparation for school work.

For more information on youth programs and how to volunteer, contact the CNMI Youth Affairs Program at 235-1299 or at youthaffairs670@gmail.com.

Staff of the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs visited elementary schools on the island yesterday dressed as cartoon characters.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MP HOLDINGS LLC dba SAIPAN VEGAS INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

MP HOLDINGS LLC dba SAIPAN VEGAS IS SEEKING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ("EOI") FROM EXPERIENCED RESTAURANT OPERATORS TO LEASE AND OPERATE A BUFFET RESTAURANT AT SAIPAN VEGAS RESORT LOCATION ON MIDDLE RD, CHALAN LAU LAU SAIPAN

CLOSING DATE OF THE EOI IS 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019.

VENUE OPENING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2019.

COMMERCIAL TERMS OF THE LEASE ARE FLEXIBLE AND SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION. CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE RESTAURANT IS LOCATED AT SAIPAN VEGAS SECOND FLOOR AT THE NORTHER END OF MIDDLE RD, CHALAN LAU LAU, AND OFFERS:

- EXCEPTIONAL EXPOSURE TO BUSY MIDDLE RD
- APPROXIMATELY 4000 SQ FEET WITH 150 SEAT BUFFET RESTAURANT.
- COMMERCIAL KITCHEN FACILITIES PROVIDED
- AMPLE CUSTOMER PARKING.
- 24 HOUR, 7 DAY A WEEK SECURITY.
- NEWLY RENOVATED BUILDING WITH TOP QUALITY FIT OUT.
- PART OF ENTERTAINMENT VENUE ATTACHED TO SAIPAN COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE, SAIPAN VEGAS RESORT 100 ROOM HOTEL AND SLOT CLUB.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT GUS NOBLE VIA EMAIL gusnoble@hotmail.com OR MOBILE +1 670 484-6050, to arrange an interview to discuss the opportunity.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Rehabilitation Council

P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 322-6537 • Fax: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6549 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2019 Second General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at the Fiesta Resort – Azucena Room from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of September 4, 2019
- IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2019 SRC Second General Membership Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2019
- V. Reports
 - a. SRC Chairperson
 - b. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
 - c. Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson
 - d. Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
 - e. OVR Director
- VI. Old Business
 - a. SRC Orientation Training
 - b. Sub-Committee Goals
- VII. New Business
 - a. Grant Opportunities Updates
- VIII. Consumer Forum
- IX. Miscellaneous/Announcements
- X. Next meeting: _____
- XI. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodation such as large print or sign language interpreter, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6549 (TTY) no later than Wednesday, September 3, 2019 at 12:30 pm.

/s/ Frances Torres, Chairperson

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

MINA welcomes E-Land Group as emerald sponsor

Management of Kensington Hotel and Pacific Islands Club of the E-Land Group recently presented Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance with their emerald sponsorship of this year's Green Gala, which is slated for Sept. 13, 2019 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Green Gala celebrates the environment and raises operational funds for MINA's programs such as marine debris prevention, Schools for Environmental Conservation, and the Tasi Watch Ranger Program.

Lindsay (Eunji) Ahn, CSR facilitator for E-Land, spoke on behalf of their organization: "We are pleased to take a sponsorship opportunity again this year. We appreciate all the endeavors of MINA for this



From left, Debra Inos, assistant manager of the HR department; Kaiza Lucido, MINA ranger; Gloria Cavanagh, general manager of Pacific Islands Club Saipan; Roberta Guerrero, MINA executive director; Ginger Choi, assistant general manager of Kensington Hotel Saipan; Dennis Seo, assistant general manager of PIC Saipan; Wayne Dawe and Daniel Kaipat, MINA rangers, and Lindsay Ahn, E-Land Group CSR facilitator.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

community, particularly the past year having been such a challenge for all of us."

In addition to E-land's annual participation in the Green Gala, their group of companies also supports MINA's Adopt-a-Bin program, which is a large component of MINA's program on marine debris prevention and building on the culture of recycling in the CNMI.

This year's Green Gala will be centered around MINA's Bring Back Our Trees campaign, and features entertainment, a buffet dinner, cash bar and bottle service, a silent auction and raffle with the grand prize of a round-trip economy class ticket courtesy of United Airlines via Guam/Honolulu to any one of United's destinations.

For more information or to purchase tickets to the Gala, call 233-7333. (PR)

Bank of Guam signs on as Green Gala sponsor

Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance again welcomes Bank of Guam as a title sponsor of the annual Green Gala.

Tania P. David, the bank's assistant vice president/operations manager, said that Bank of Guam "needs to support those that support our environment which is an endless drive. We must continue to give and keep giving so that our planet, our island, our community will continue the fight to protect the land, ocean, and air that we borrow from our children. We all have an obligation to do our part in taking care of the earth—we were only given one."

Proceeds of the event go toward operational funds for the continuation of MINA's programs.

MINA will also be presenting this year's Green Awards, which include the Green Business of the Year, Environmental Heroes, and Environmental Champion.

Call MINA at 233-7333 (REEF) for tickets or for more information. (PR)



Tania David, assistant vice president/operations, and Larry Philip, Garapan branch manager, are joined by Bank of Guam staff, Somia Quan, MINA's vice president, and MINA's Tasi Watch rangers and management.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 4, 2000

CPA rolls back airport fees

The Commonwealth Ports Authority on Saturday decided to roll back existing airport departure facility charge from \$8 to \$5.79 per passenger, a development that resulted from a series of discussions between CPA officials and CNMI signatory airlines representatives. Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said the rollback will result to substantial savings on the part of the airline companies without adverse impact on CPA's capabilities to meet its airport bond indenture. The decision by the CPA Board of Directors came in the wake of pressing requests from for-

eign carriers to reduce airport charges to the pre-March 2000 level. Mainly because of recommendations by its United States-based financial consultants, CPA increased airport charges beginning March 1, 2000.

Teno signs law expanding weapons control

Giving minors access to guns is now a crime in the CNMI, punishable with up to a month in prison and fine of not more than \$1,000 under a law signed last Friday. Public Law 12-17, otherwise known as the Minor Children Firearms Control Act of 2000, also requires gun owners to secure their weapons away from children. A vi-

olation constitutes a \$500 fine and a three-day jail sentence. In signing the law, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio reminded it does not diminish the provision of the Weapons Control Act that requires anyone who possesses, uses or carries a firearm to have an identification card.

September 4, 2004

NMC awaits OK on request for La Fiesta lease payment extension

Hotel Nikko Saipan has yet to respond to the Northern Marianas College's request for an extension to its leasehold payment for La Fiesta shopping mall, NMC president Antonio Deleon Guerrero said. In an interview, Deleon Guerrero said NMC asked Hotel Nikko for a 90-day extension to its first leasehold payment for La Fiesta, which is due on Oct. 31. The request was made in July to provide 90 days no-

tice to Hotel Nikko. If NMC's request is approved, the first leasehold payment will be postponed until the end of 2004. The Legislature recently junked NMC's request for additional funding.

PSS concerned about students sexual behavior

The Public School System is calling on the community, especially parents and guardians, to check on their children's "at risk behaviors" including sexual practices to ensure their healthy well-being and prevent them from getting any sexually-transmitted disease. "This is everyone's responsibility. These are all our children. We need to be aware of their sexual orientation and how to effectively address their concerns," said PSS science program coordinator Jackie Quitugua. She said cultural awareness would help them be firm and

not easily swayed when pressures arise. Quitugua said that there is some improvement in the youth's sexual behaviors in 2003 data compared with 2001.

September 4, 2005

Car sales decline for second month

For the second consecutive month, auto sales significantly dropped in August compared to their 2004 counterpart, with almost all auto brands—even Toyota—posting lower sales. The CNMI's auto dealers only sold 114 new cars last month, 58 units less than the 172 cars sold in August 2004. The sales turnout equated to a decline of 33.72 percent. Only Hyundai, Chevrolet and Nissan's sales increased last month. Triple J Motors, Microl Corp., and Joteten Motors sell those brands, respectively. Triple J sold 12 Hyundai brands for a 200-percent improvement compared to

the only four units it sold in August 2004. The rest of Triple J's auto brands—Mazda, Isuzu, Suzuki and the popular Mitsubishi—suffered lower sales.

'Poker operators oppose lump sum payment'

Poker operators are opposed to the lump sum payment of license fees, as embodied in a bill now pending in the upper chamber, said Sen. Joseph M. Mendiola. He said this was the conclusion based on the public hearings his panel had conducted separately on Tinian and Rota last week. Mendiola chairs the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs, which is now reviewing the bill that aims to revert the poker license fee payment to lump sum payment rather than on a quarterly basis. The bill, introduced by Rep. Justo Quitugua, said that the one-time payment would boost collection efforts per fiscal year.

GRMC remains the main referral hospital for CNMI

DEDED, Guam—Since its first year of operation, Guam Regional Medical City has been the primary referral hospital for Saipan and the CNMI. This means patients in need of emergency services and medical procedures not readily available in the CNMI can take advantage of GRMC's proximity rather than traveling greater distances unnecessarily.

"We are grateful to GRMC

for having a pivotal role in the medical referral system from the CNMI," said Esther Muña, chief executive officer of the Commonwealth Health Care Corp., which runs the Commonwealth Health Center, the CNMI's only hospital. "Its services and that of its affiliated specialists have proven invaluable."

GRMC has welcomed many patients over the last four years, but the number has been steadily

increasing to an average of one to two direct inpatient-to-inpatient transfers patient per week. The weekend of July 26 – 29 alone, three patients were transported from Saipan, one via the U.S. Coast Guard.

"The relationship and partnership between the CNMI Medical Referral Services and GRMC has been very important and critical for our patients care. GRMC has

been very accommodating to our needs especially on very critical medical emergencies requiring immediate response and coordination. This close relationship extends beyond medical to both administrative and financial services," said Ronald Sablan, director of the CNMI Medical Referral Services.

GRMC's chief medical officer, Dr. Felix Tudela Cabrera,

himself a Saipan native, said, "Providing high quality acute and sub-acute specialty services that reduce the radius a patient and family must travel is our main vision. Doing this currently for the entire Mariana Islands gives the 'R' in GRMC credence."

"Aside from the inconvenience, traveling stateside or toward Asia for acute care may be too risky due to issues

such as travel time, availability or even altitude. If it is a service that GRMC can provide well and with value, this ultimately makes us the wisest choice," added Cabrera.

"GRMC is the regional hospital for all our people in the CNMI and Micronesia area. Patients can get the care they need here at home, close to their support system of family and friends," said Francis E. Santos, GRMC senior vice president for Strategic Planning & Business Development. **(PR)**

Schools to play host to mental health fairs this month

A series of mental health fairs will be held across many public schools this month in a bid to prevent suicides in the Commonwealth and as part of the observance of September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

The fairs are intended to share resources and stories on the topic of suicide and suicide prevention, to reach out to those affected by suicide, and connect individuals in need to the right services.

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Program will be partnering on this fairs with the CHCC Department of Public Health Services, the CNMI Public School System, Pride Marianas Youth, the CNMI Department of Public Safety, the Ayuda Network, the Northern Marianas Coalition

Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Northern Marianas College, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the Office of Youth Affairs, and the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc.

GLS social marketing coordinator Sharina Clark stressed the importance of raising awareness about the issue of suicide by sharing resiliency, warning signs, risk factors, and to let the community know that there are resources available to them. She said that a lot of people are afraid to seek anti-suicide services due to the stigma surrounding depression and anxiety.

GLS provides intervention services for youth and young adults ages 10 to 24, Clark said.

For those who are over the age of 24, CHCC's Commu-

nity Guidance Center provides intervention services, according to CHCC spokesperson Zoe Travis.

The following are the schedules and venues for the mental health fairs:

■ Sep. 16, 2019 – Dandan Middle School

■ Sep. 18, 2019 – Francisco M. Sablan Middle School

■ Sep. 20, 2019 – Saipan Southern High School

■ Sep. 26, 2019 – Marianas High School

■ Sep. 27, 2019 – Tanapag Middle School

■ Oct. 4, 2019 – Kagman High School (with Chacha Ocean View Middle School and Da'ok Academy students)

For more information about these mental health fairs, contact the GLS office at (670) 664-5483 or email cnmiglsysp@gmail.com. **(Marc A. Venus)**

Friday deadline to nominate Bridge of Light awardee

Nominations for the 2019 Bridge of Light Award are still being accepted until Friday, Sept. 6, 2019, by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.

The award is given each year to honor the accomplishments and sacrifices of one extraordinary individual or community hero who has worked diligently to provide safety for the community, to work to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and to be a "Bridge of Light" for victims and survivors in the CNMI.

The nominee may be a service provider, first responder, representative, or volunteer at one or more eligible agencies, organizations or offices in the CNMI, and who has been there for a minimum of one year. The nominee must also show dedication and effort in the areas of leadership,

service, advocacy for victims, prevention, community education or mobilization, and resource development.

Nominations may be submitted by a victim or survivor; a member, representative, and/or volunteer of NMCADSV and/or the Family Violence Task Force; or an employee, representative, and/or volunteer at eligible CNMI agencies, organizations, or offices.

To verify if an agency, organization, or office may nominate, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org.

Nominations may be submitted online through <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3WNCMS9>. Hard copy nomination forms may also be submitted to the NMCADSV office located in Suite 206 of the Marina Heights I Building


in Puerto Rico, Saipan, during hours of operation (Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Those nominating are strongly encouraged to be as detailed and thorough as possible on the form to show why their nominee is deserving of the award as those evaluating nominations will consider nominees based on the information provided.

The deadline to submit completed nomination forms is 11:59pm on Friday, Sept. 6, 2019.

The recipient of the 2019 Bridge of Light Award will be announced during the upcoming Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing ceremony at 10am on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019 at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the coalition at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org. **(PR)**



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRIMARY SCREEN, GRIT & FOG REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply and delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant at CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-19-014, Rev.1, Supply and Delivery of Primary Screen, Grit and Fog Removal Equipment for the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.


All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. The proponents must be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E., Senior Engineer for Water/Wastewater at email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-031

SAN VICENTE WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Construction of San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consist of removal of existing 0.5 million gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances; one (1) additional boring at the center of the existing tank; design and construction of the new 0.75 million gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; construction of new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting; construction of new asphalt concrete access road; and installation of temporary storage tanks at the San Vicente Tank site. The project also includes installation of PSV station with flowmeter at the Dandan Tank site. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 21, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-19-031, San Vicente Water Tank Replacement Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 9:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on **August 22, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Kirtzie Reyes, Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address kirtzie.reyes@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

Reform the Electoral College

The controversial way America elects presidents is barreling toward a crisis point. A federal court ruling has spotlighted the confounding nature of the system, which twice in the last five elections put presidents into office against the wishes of the majority of American voters.

Under the Constitution, the voters who select a president every four years are, in fact, picking a party-chosen slate of electors pledged to that candidate. The presidential candidate who wins a state's popular vote gets all its electors—except in Nebraska and Maine, which split the electors by congressional districts. These electors formally select the president after Election Day passes. This mechanism solved two problems of 1789's America that no longer plague the nation.

Today, the Electoral College turns every presidential election into a contest for the same handful of closely divided battleground states. Voters in Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the upper Midwest hold the power and get candidates' focus. Deviating from this priority list, as Hillary Clinton did in 2016, means courting electoral doom.

A decade ago, Washington joined states working to modernize the system with the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. It takes effect only if enough states join to control the 270 Electoral College votes required to elect a president. Each state's Electoral College votes would then be awarded to the winner of the national popular vote. But only 15 states and the District of Columbia have joined the agreement, giving it just 73% of the electors needed.

While legislatures in other states debate signing on, an alarming confluence of events has thrown Washington law into conflict with a federal court ruling. In the 2016 election, a handful of electors schemed to game the College to block Donald Trump from office. They traded votes to push the selection for president into the then-Republican controlled House of Representatives. It failed, but repercussions are playing out anyway.

Washington fines its "faithless electors" and under a new state law, will cancel and replace their votes, joining nine states that already had such laws on the books. But the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals this month found removing an elector's vote illegal, reading the Constitution to say Electoral College voters can vote as they please. If the ruling withstands U.S. Supreme Court review, states would lose the Electoral College's accountability mechanism and all electors would have carte blanche to ignore the people's will.

From time to time, members of Congress attempt to abolish the Electoral College, but few get far. Congress should step up to modernize the system. A place to start is to build on the Electoral College, which is enshrined in the Constitution and would be difficult to toss entirely. Instead, it should reflect the national popular vote.

Until then, Washington must champion the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact to other states so every vote in America can count the same.

(c) 2019 The Seattle Times



Choosing between a bad deal or no deal

After almost 18 years of war, the United States may finally be on the verge of withdrawing from Afghanistan.

Opponents of an Afghan withdrawal or even draw-down justifiably point to the clear limits of the proposed deal U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad has negotiated with the Taliban: The Afghan government has been sidelined, a cease-fire could prove transitory and the Taliban could renege on any pledge to renounce Al Qaeda. Yet there is also a clear reason for such an unsatisfactory agreement. Despite nearly two decades of fighting—and overwhelming superiority in manpower, firepower and money—the U.S. has remarkably little leverage in Afghanistan.

The security situation is the worst it has been since the U.S. invasion in 2001. Though the U.S. stopped releasing district stability data this year, independent analysts conclude that the Taliban controls or contests the majority of Afghanistan's districts. Civilian casualties in 2018 were twice what they were during even the worst years of Afghanistan's brutal 1990s civil war. Most importantly, the Afghan National Security Forces are taking unsustainable casualties and attrition, as both Afghan and U.S. military leaders concede. Over a third of the Afghan National Army must be replaced every year.

All of this comes despite another grim metric: The U.S. dropped more bombs in Afghanistan in 2018 than in any previous year.

The Trump administration's "mini-surge," foisted on a clearly reluctant president by his military advisors, has failed. All major security indicators have stalled or moved in the wrong direction. Even the instruments of this escalation, the Army's vaunted Security Force Assistance Brigades, are struggling, with noncombat attrition rates as high as those of their Afghan partners.

American leverage is also affected by both its looming presidential election and President Trump's clear enthusiasm for withdrawal, but these are both secondary factors. The major reason the United States finds itself picking between a bad deal with the Taliban and no deal at all is the foolish groupthink of the U.S. foreign policy and military establishment. Despite ample evidence that nation-building in Afghanistan was a fool's errand, devoted followers of respectable foreign policy opinion obstinately insist that the U.S. persists with a failed Afghan strategy regardless of the country's cultural, geographic, political and military realities. The U.S. has spent more on Afghan reconstruction than it did on the entire Marshall Plan in Europe—but has precious little to show for it.

For most of the last two decades, the United States has thrown good money after bad in Afghanistan. That includes expanding NATO's mission in Afghanistan in 2006, surging troops and promising "government in a box" under Gen. Stanley McChryst-

By GIL BARNDOLLAR
Los Angeles Times



Gil Barndollar is a senior fellow at Defense Priorities and the military fellow-in-residence at the Catholic University of America's Center for the Study of Statesmanship. From 2009-16 he served as an infantry officer in the Marines and deployed to Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Persian Gulf.

tal and former President Obama, or dropping the so-called Mother of All Bombs under Trump. Now reduced to merely fighting not to lose, the limits of American power and expertise are plain for all to see. Victory is always said to be just around the corner—and still could be, according to some in Washington who refuse to face reality.

Had the United States negotiated with the Taliban in 2003, 2009 or 2017, it could hardly have gotten a worse deal than it stands to achieve today. But there were always talking heads, purported experts and armchair strategists eager for escalation, not to mention generals who wanted to prove their mettle. Yet with nearly 2,500 American troops killed and more than \$1 trillion squandered in an attempt to fix one of the most backward countries on earth, America is further than ever from building a peaceful democracy in Kabul.

Both voters and veterans realize this: Nearly 60% of both groups say the Afghan war was not worth fighting, according to a recent Pew Research Center survey.

The United States has little leverage as the country enters what may be the stretch run of negotiations to end its military role in Afghanistan. The U.S. refusal to negotiate and accept more realistic goals, even at moments of temporary battlefield advantage, has left Khalilzad with a weak hand, despite all the blood and treasure expended.

There's a saying in American infantry battalions, usually directed by furious sergeants at slow-moving privates: "Play stupid games, win stupid prizes." A nearly 18-year military campaign in Afghanistan has been a very stupid game, and leaving with a fig leaf agreement is the fittingly stupid prize. Should U.S. troops stay longer, whatever the justification, our negotiating position will not be improved. A bad deal or no deal are the options America's bipartisan foreign policy establishment has left us with in Afghanistan.

Hinanau sayonara`

Hu tamtam ñaihon hiniyuñg fiñkas Japones ginen Marianas gi halacha. Dañkulu yan taduñg na hoyu pinegaña guine. Hita siempre pumadese kada ratu man-matompul `sino basnag.


Puntu: mas menus salape` guine para setbisiu yan cho`chu`. Sin homlu` na kinalamten ekonomia kase man-abende hit mah-

Senior Citizen Time Space Curvature Trilogy No. 2

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’
CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

A continuation of my T.O.A.S.T. (Timeless Old Age Senior Tales) poetic series. So come taste sonnet Connolly tales submitted comments today.

Old Age on the Rise: My Demise

On my timely demise there is from little to no surprise for a doddering old fool who taught school this applies facing onset of senile dementia Alzheimer’s disease vies aging and less raging signal a more sedentary life on the rise.

At the rising of the moon a cell phone paging lunatic cries mocking death and insurance actuarial tables it denies synaptic malfunctions and short-term memory loss in disguise the inability to remember or recall as father time flies.

What stares me in the face and confronts my bewildered eyes is a pack of distortions, deceptions, and more deliberate lies a shot of reality wine in a glass of truth I have to analyze to absorb septuagenarian whats whens wheres and whys.

Throwing it back at me, the mirror on the wall spies what some elderly despise, white hair on head and beard, Oh me! Oh my! hear my false cries.

Old Age Spins: A Gain, A Loss, Alas

My little shin splints make me wince
my little crotch rash comes in a flash
get rid of that bottle of black hair rinse
get access to your big bundle of cash
eye lashes invisibly irritating my eyes
skin tags under my arms and on my neck
an old friend shows up a complete surprise
no need to kiss her just give her a peck
ageist putdowns heard more at my age
in church my knees refuse to let me kneel
can’t remember whether I turned the page
rains effect on my arthritis I always feel

old age spins are now my everyday tales
old aged whiskey puts wind in my sails.

Growing Old Tips: Don’t Read My Lips

In my poetry I’m not really looking for profundity but do hope to provide readers some levity and humor as years slow me down and increase my rotundity just an old boomer who can smile at a new rumor.

Hoping some of my satiric and narrative poems catch a few eyes and begin that interior journey connecting neural synapses inside grey haired domes and provide mirth before readers go out in a gurney.

Oh not hah ha hah! but perhaps a wry or sly smile coming when readers get my sarcastic points of view which go sloshing around memory banks for a while that would be my ideal in reaching out to you.

Looking for some fun ‘how to age gracefully’ tips read some of my doggerel poetry, just don’t read my lips.

lug lapes yan talapus.

Kahulu dispues kuestion: Guaha fondu para u katsun este na dañkulun hoyu? Biyon pot biyon pesus este na maliñgu! Haf` na planu guaha?

Planu

Gi hilu` este na sinisede, haf` planun hegsu` I Deni` gi este na chinatsaga? Guaha sineda` miyu muntun biyon pot biyon na fiñkas para katsun gastu? Sin bisnis Japones guine haf` otu tax siña mahatsa para fondun nesessidat?

Kase guaha motibu na madisidi ni los probes madiñgu Marianas. Ti hu tuñgu` kau madiskute este yan manma-elihe guine. Lau ma`pus esta i uttimu “sayonara” gi ruplanu para tatte Japon.

Mafattu gi hinasoghu kuantu mohon este na maliñgu yan kau guaha listu programan ekonomia guine para u katsu i taduñg hoyu. Seriosu na asunto pot kontra kualidat linala` tautau-ta siha guine.

Difirensia

Guaha `nai ha gacha`yu` maisa na dibina haf` i difirensia entre kustumbre, tradision yan kultura. Esta la anaku` karera-hu ya ti mafagpu` ham yan este na dibina.

Hu komprende na kultura gai tinatte deste antigu na tiempu ni mapasa papa` hinerasion pot hinerasion. Enfin, todul i tres matulalaika segun kinemprende hinerasion `sino eksisiu. Lau mauleg ta komprende kumu natibu.

Propiu

Madisidi para u fan mapega gi lugat niha i man-mahatsa siha na tolañg man-mofona giya Anaguan. Estague` siña sumede felis na pinetsige gi usun lugat i guaha dignu na respetu.

Huli`e` antes haf` masusede `nai mamueba te` lañg man-mofona ya ti man-mafamauleg tatte dispues. Puru dinimalas tumatiye todul pinetsige guihe na lugat. Respetu i mas impottante gi kustumbreta parehu para i manlala`la` yan man-madisponse.

Ekonomia

Hafa ekonomia-ta pa`gu fuera de dikiki` na industrian bisita? Guaha otu` `nai siña man-apu` hit `an chatsaga kinalamten turista? Ti namatman sa` todul mañgekuentus pot ekonomia.

Dinanche pot rason na este na konseptu ha tutuhungue` gi halum guma` familia. Kinalamten familia espehos gi dispues de pettan sanmena. Ayu mina` sentiduyu` `an huhuñgug inadiñgan tautau-ta pot este na asunto.

Guahan

Matutuhun diniskuten estau politika siha gi bisinun sanlichen `sino Guahan. Hu sapopotta direchun mañeluta umeksisia direchun niha pot modun gobienu ni kinatsu siha mismu tumuge` na konstitusion.

Deste 1898 na sakan mapega Guahan gi papa` banderan Amerikanu. Propiu i tiempu na u fan masede dumisidi haf` guinefen niha gi disposision asuntun niha. Mauleg na hunta para umapetsige pot este na asunto.

No one wins in a trade war

Since last year, we have seen continued escalation of trade frictions between the United States and China. There have been more than a dozen rounds of negotiations but, regrettably, no agreement has been reached.

When the U.S. started to ramp up tariffs on Chinese goods, it cited trade imbalances as the reason. But arguments that the U.S. is losing in trade with China because of a trade deficit are disputed by mainstream U.S. economists.

The U.S. trade deficit with the rest of the world is caused by the U.S. economic structure and the international division of labor. In fact, the U.S. trade deficit has been shifting among its trade partners and now mainly resides with China. This is a result of market choices based on the competitive advantages of each country’s industries.

In the 40 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the U.S., the two economies have become deeply interconnected. Despite the U.S. trade deficit with China, 2017 sales revenue and profits of U.S.-funded enterprises in China exceeded \$700 billion and \$50 billion respectively.


Consider also that the U.S. has long imposed strict export controls on China. But the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in April 2017 found the U.S. trade deficit with China would have been reduced by 35% if the export controls on China had been reduced to the level imposed on France.

Sino-U.S. economic and trade cooperation is a win-win relationship, not a zero-sum game. A U.S.-China Business Council study shows trade with China saves every American family an average of \$850 annually. In 2015, joint ventures of the top three U.S. automakers in China made a combined profit of \$7.44 billion. With China focusing more on midrange and low-end production of the manufacturing chain, the U.S. has been able to concentrate on developing high-end manufacturing and modern service industries.

In late June President Xi Jinping and President Trump agreed in Osaka, Japan, to resume trade negotiations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and that the U.S. would not impose new tariffs on imported goods from China. But in early August,

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Gi 1972 guaha planu para umana dañu` gi papa` Commonwealth na estau Guahan yan sankattan na Marianas. Lau mañega ni mañeluta. Ayu dispues `nai ta petsige haf` guinefita pot estau. Gi 1978 ma-establese gobiennun iya Marianas.

`An ta atan fotmat chatkables na sudadanun Amerikanu i tropa. Ti mañanau hit gi eleksion president. Ni fotmat na representasion gi kuetpun Kongresson iya Amerika mapega gi non-voting delegate. Gi finu` i kanta “man pau asu hit na haole”.

Mauleg na estau i chatkables direchun natibu kumu sudadanun Amerikanu?

Espirituat

Hafaisen-yu` un` bisnietu taimanu manayuyot. Hu fanague i lahihi sin ditension. Hu esplika na entre guiya solu yan i Saina gi silensiu na fina` tinayuyotña, konbetsasion.

Ha ketuñgu` haf` na kabesaña solu na usu gi tinayuyot. Hu esplika na guiya ha` yan i Saina guihe na ora. Gi halum silensiu hinassoña `nai mas obra manayuyot yan mangagau bendision.

Huna` komprende lahihi na i fitme na sensian espirituat solu mas metgut na añkla gi ha` aniña. Ni taimanu na napu gi halum tasi siempre u fattu halum gi kantun unai, felis.

Para i hinibeña hu agradece i gof talaña gi bandan inapagat. Esta mauleg na tiempu `in gasta umestoria pot finaposhu. Ha agradece lokue` lahihi `an sige hu fana` gue yaben gitala pot yaña dandan.

Mediku

Kase pot sensian yine`ase` na gigon un` sañgan na malañgu hau todul manlistu haf` na amot mauleg para hagu.

Kuestion: haf` na para u guaha rekomendasion amot lau ni unu mediku? Dinanche sensian yine`ase` yan ina`ayuda! Lau muña pot fabot ma-atrebi hau gi bandan amot.


Promesa

Sessu i manpairen politika ma-atotga gueku na infresen mas mauleg na suetdu. Dispues `nai masoda` na taya` fondu para este na inefrese ma-eskusa siha tat kumu, “not yet, already” `sino “wen natting, den natting”.

Inefresen chagu` sin kabales na inestudia gi asunto siempre taya` para un` fagcha`e fuera ke matompul`. Kikidi un` hatsa hau para un` ta`lun umaregla kareramu gi hilu` mofo`na na che`chu` hasupag.

By ZHAO JIAN

Chicago Tribune



Zhao Jian is consul general of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago.

the U.S. unilaterally announced 10% tariffs on another \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods. It left China with no other option than to take countermeasures.






China is sincere in its desire to resolve differences through negotiations. But it is also firm in its determination to fight back against unreasonable demands. No one wins in a trade war. Ramping up tariffs will not solve any problems. It hurts U.S. importers, consumers, automakers and other industries. Continued trade frictions put more downward pressure on the global economy. For China, the trade frictions may have caused short-term economic pains. But its long-term momentum of growth has not, and will not, change.

Every 17 minutes a flight travels between China and the United States. U.S. products such as Illinois’ soybeans, Iowa’s beef and Michigan’s cars have long entered the Chinese market. As the world’s two largest economies, both the United States and China stand to gain from cooperation and lose from confrontation.

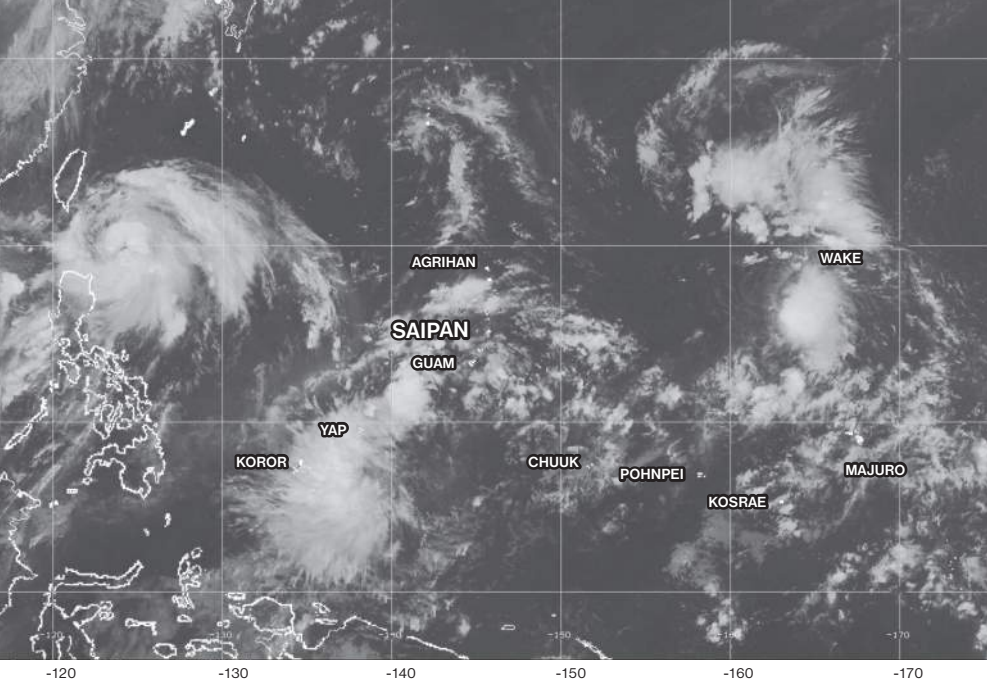
China and the U.S. share broad common interests and important responsibilities in promoting sustainable global development, addressing climate change, enhancing energy security, preventing major communicable diseases and combating international terrorism. It is important for China and the U.S. to meet each other halfway, treat each other as equals and with respect, pursue win-win cooperation, and adopt a rational and practical approach in solving problems. This is the only way to bring real benefits to the people of our two countries and the world at large.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	
88°	78°	89°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:53 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A broad disturbance well south of Guam is headed toward Yap, but convergence along to its north is causing showers and thunderstorms around the Marianas this morning. Farther to the east, a sheared Tropical Storm 14W continues on its WNW path.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	82° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	61° / 52°	
Beijing	Sunny	93° / 64°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	89° / 79°	
London	Showers	70° / 52°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	92° / 73°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Showers	63° / 46°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
New York	Thunderstorm	88° / 65°	
Osaka	Thunderstorm	90° / 79°	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	75° / 54°	
Busan	Thunderstorm	81° / 75°	
Rome	Sunny	88° / 63°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	96° / 73°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	67° / 58°	
Seoul	Thunderstorm	82° / 72°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	92° / 70°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:27 AM	LOW TIDE	0.36	
11:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.85	
5:39 PM	LOW TIDE	0.80	
11:21 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.95	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:27 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:26 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:26 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:34 AM	10:28 PM	-
Thursday	11:31 AM	11:16 PM	-
Friday	12:27 PM	-	-
Saturday	-	12:04 AM	1:22 PM
Sunday	-	12:55 AM	2:15 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2019									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily		UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily	
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4		UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4		7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7		7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily		7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily	
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1		TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1	
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7		OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7	
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4		OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6		7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7		7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5	
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6						
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)					HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN				
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1		JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4	
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4		JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6		3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7		MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN		OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM		UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR		UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4		OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7	
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1		UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7	
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7		UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6	
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
SAIPAN TO ROTA					1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily		1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily		1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily	
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily		1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO SAIPAN					1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily		1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily		1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily	
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily		1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO GUAM					TINIAN TO SAIPAN				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily		2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	
GUAM TO ROTA					2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily		2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily	
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily		2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	
					2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	
					2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	
					2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	
					2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	

Business

Jang Gun relocates to Coral Tree Ave.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jang Gun Restaurant literally means general in Korean and has been one of the top-ranked Korean restaurants on Saipan in the past 15 years.

Last July, Jang Gun Restaurant relocated to a more prominent location along Coral Tree Avenue in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

To celebrate the move, the restaurant introduced a Korean lunch buffet. Aside from its famous home-made kimchi, Jang Gun Restaurant's smorgasbord includes more than four meat dishes like deji bulgogi, barbecue ribs, and pork curry and restaurant staples like fish roe, jajangmyeon, spicy squid, fried chicken, Korean pancakes, and kimchi fried rice.

On occasion it also serves Korean versions of spaghetti, *pancit* (stir-fried noodles), and *lumpia*. The buffet also includes desserts—fruit salad and fresh fruits—as well as miso and corn soup, and iced tea.

Dubai to curb pace of construction projects as prices fall

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Dubai's ruler issued a directive on Monday that would curb the pace of new real estate construction projects as property prices fall and the sheer scale of developments threatens to outstrip demand.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum ordered the creation of a committee to study the needs of the real estate market, evaluate all future projects and control the pace of projects, a statement by Dubai's Media Office said.

The move comes amid a slowdown in Dubai's economy and a slump in real estate prices.

Dubai's real estate sector is a bellwether for its economy. It not only caters to the emirate's residents, but also attracts wealthy investors from around the world seeking a safe place to put their money.

Property values, however, have been steadily dipping. A report by UAE-based Property Finder found that Dubai



Jang Gun Restaurant is now located at the old Sunshine Café location in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan along Coral Street Avenue.

Chief executive officer Chan Seck Hong said this is the first time Jang Gun Restaurant has offered a buffet lunch as the move to a bigger and more accessible location allowed them to finally introduce the

eat-all-you-can option. "At the old location we just didn't have space for a buffet. I'm very happy that we can finally offer this at our new location here along Coral Tree Avenue," he said. The site is the

old Sunshine Café location. Hong assured that Jang Gun Restaurant does not use monosodium glutamate in any of its dishes. The lunch buffet has so far been a successful, with over 50 customers every day, majority of them walk-in tourists with a good mix of office and government workers. The Korean buffets costs



Jang Gun Restaurant now has a Korean lunch buffet for \$12.

only \$12 per person and is from 11:30am to 1:30pm, Monday-Sunday. "We've long been the No. 1 Korean restaurant on Saipan and with our move to a new location we hope to continue this tradition," Hong said. Jang Gun Restaurant comfortably sits 95 customers, with semi-private accommodations for 35. It also has a

private room for 10-14 people. An extensive *ala carte* menu is also available and starts at 10am. Jang Gun Restaurant is also open to reservations for birthday parties and gives away a free cake for the birthday celebrant. For reservations and for more information on Jang Gun Restaurant, call 233-1516 or search for it on Facebook.

UK prime minister tells lawmakers to back his Brexit plan

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Boris Johnson shot down the notion that he wanted an early election to secure Brexit, insisting Monday that it wasn't the way to get a deal done.

Johnson decried parliamentary action set for Tuesday that is meant to delay Britain's departure from the European Union, arguing that it would "chop the legs" out of the U.K. position. He spoke moments after lawmakers posted a copy of the proposed bill on Twitter, making clear that they would press the government to seek a delay if there's no deal.

"Let's let our negotiators get on with their work, without that sword of Damocles over their necks, and without an election, without an election," he said. "I don't want an election, you don't want an

election. Let's get on with the people's agenda." Full Coverage: Brexit Opposition parties are pledging to challenge Johnson's policy that the U.K. will leave the EU on Oct. 31 even if there is no deal. A no-deal Brexit is considered dangerous because it will sever decades of seamless trade with the EU single market of 500 million, Britain's largest trading partner. Despite Johnson's comment, Downing Street said later Monday night that Johnson would call an early election if his opponents in Parliament manage to pass legislation that would block his plans for a departure from the EU by the Oct. 31 deadline. His goal would be to gain a majority in a new Parliament that would back his Brexit stance.

The febrile atmosphere came after Johnson got tough with members of his Conservative Party who opposed his Brexit plans. The so-called rebels were being warned Monday that they will be expelled from the party if they supported the parliamentary efforts. Johnson insists the potential for a no-deal Brexit must remain an option in negotiations with the EU. The bloc is adamant it will not renegotiate the agreement struck with former Prime Minister Theresa May on the terms of Britain's departure and the framework of future relations. The deal was defeated in Britain's Parliament three times, largely because of opposition to clauses related to keeping open the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

S&P
2,926.46
+1.88
+0.06%

DOW
26,403.28
+41.08
+0.16%

NASDAQ
7,962.88
-10.51
-0.13%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.49	Hong Kong Dollar	7.84	Russian Ruble	66.49
British Pound	0.83	Indian Rupee	71.33	Singapore Dollar	1.35
Canadian Dollar	1.33	Japanese Yen	106.30	South Korean Won	1,194.92
Chinese Yuan	7.06	Malaysian Ringgit	4.18	Swiss Franc	0.99
Euro	0.91	New Zealand Dollar	1.59	Taiwan Dollar	30.87
		Philippine Peso	51.23	Thailand Baht	30.59

Nation

8 killed in deadly California boat fire; 26 missing

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP)—A middle-of-the-night fire swept a boat carrying recreational scuba divers anchored near an island off the Southern California coast early Monday, leaving at least eight dead and little hope any of 26 others missing would be found alive.

Five of six crew members on the Conception escaped by jumping into an inflatable boat they steered to a nearby vessel.

Rescuers recovered four bodies just off Santa Cruz Island and spotted four others on the ocean floor near where the boat sank only about 20 yards (18 meters) from shore. They planned to continue searching for survivors, but Coast Guard Capt. Monica Rochester cautioned it was unlikely anyone else would be found alive.

"We will search all the way through the night into the morning, but I think we should all be prepared to move into the worst outcome," she told an afternoon news conference.

The four bodies plucked from the ocean about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles all had injuries consistent with drowning, said Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Kroll.

It wasn't immediately clear



This image made from video released by TowBoatUS Ventura shows a burning out charter dive boat "Conception," before it sank off Santa Cruz Island, near the coast of Ventura County, Calif., early Monday, Sept. 2, 2019.

ing it was no more than 100 yards (91 meters) from his craft. "I could see the fire coming through holes on the side of the boat. There were these explosions every few beats. You can't prepare yourself for that. It was horrendous.

"The fire was too big, there was absolutely nothing we could do," he added.

Hansen said two of the crew members went back toward the Conception looking for survivors but found no one. Asked at a news conference if the crew tried to help others aboard, Rochester told reporters, "I don't have any additional information."

The Conception, based in Santa Barbara Harbor on the mainland, was owned by Truth Aquatics. Dave Reid, who runs an underwater camera manufacturing business with his wife, Terry Schuller, and who has traveled on the Conception and two other boats in Truth

Aquatics' fleet, said he considered all three among the best and safest dive-boats around.

"When you see the boats they are always immaculate," he said. "I wouldn't hesitate at all to go on one again. Of all the boat companies, that would be one of the ones I wouldn't think this would happen to."

His wife said Truth Aquatics crews have always been meticulous in going over safety instructions at the beginning of every trip she's been on.

"They tell you where the life jackets are, how to put them on, the points of egress, the exits, where the fire extinguishers are, on every single trip," said Schuller, who goes on diving expeditions often with her husband. "They are the best, the absolute best."

Both said the sleeping area is comfortable but small, however, with bunk beds stacked next to one another in a tight space on the vessel's lowest deck. Coming up to the top deck to get off requires navigating a narrow stairway with only one exit. If the fire was fast-moving, Reid said, it's very likely divers couldn't escape and the crew couldn't get to them.

when the bodies on the ocean floor might be retrieved or when divers could search the boat for others.

"It's upside down in relatively shallow water with receding tides that are moving it around," Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown said. Investigators have not yet determined a cause for the fire.

The 75-foot (23 meters) Conception was on a three-day excursion to the chain of

rugged, wind-swept isles that form Channel Islands National Park in the Pacific Ocean west of Los Angeles. The fire broke out around 3 a.m. in Platt's Harbor off Santa Cruz Island.

The five crew members who escaped took refuge on a boat called The Grape Escape that was anchored nearby. Two had minor injuries, Coast Guard Petty Officer Mark Barney said.

The Grape Escape's owners, Bob and Shirley Hansen,

told The New York Times they were asleep when they heard pounding on the side of their 60-foot (18-meter) fishing vessel about 3:30 a.m. and discovered the frightened crew members. They told the couple they fled when the fire grew out of control.

"When we looked out, the other boat was totally engulfed in flames, from stem to stern," Hansen said, estimat-

4th time in 4 years: It's hurricane evacuation time in US

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—It's become a hurricane-season ritual in the Southeast: When a storm threatens, coastal residents board up homes, load up SUVs and fill highways where the traffic lanes are reversed to offer a speedy escape inland.

For some people, Hurricane Dorian is the fourth storm they have had to flee in four years.

Forecasters are not sure if the core of the powerful system will ever strike the U.S. It is predicted to stay offshore as it spins north, paralleling the coasts of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

But if scientists are off by even a few dozen miles, the storm could plow onshore somewhere along that route. So more than a million people have been ordered to leave seaside communities, and more evacuations were issued Monday—all the way to North Carolina's Outer Banks.

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster is aware of the complaints. He opened a news conference Monday acknowledging that his evacua-

tion decision would not make everyone happy.

"The best thing in the world would be for that hurricane to take a sharp right and go out in the ocean. We would all celebrate," McMaster said. "But we would rather be safe than sorry."

Part of the evacuation fatigue is that recent storms have not had a catastrophic impact along the Atlantic Coast. There were dire possibilities of a Category 4 Hurricane Matthew striking Florida, but that storm made a turn similar to the one forecast for Dorian.

Matthew did cause billions of dollars of wind and flooding damage before coming ashore in South Carolina as a Category 1 storm.

Some of Flory Reddick's neighbors in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, east of Jacksonville, got flooded during Matthew. An evacuation order has been made for Dorian too. But Reddick stayed then and plans to stay now.

"It's a lot of trouble to get ready and then nothing happens. You know you're glad. But you think, wow, I went to all this trouble for noth-

ing, rolling up rugs, taking them upstairs, to only have your roof come off and get everything wet anyway," Reddick said.

Atlantic Coast states have seamless plans in place thanks to lots of practice. In South Carolina, officials noticed traffic jams on Monday morning as evacuees and tourists heading home on Labor Day filled Interstate 26. In response, authorities reversed lanes about four hours earlier than planned so both sides of the highway were headed inland from Columbia to Charleston.

Twenty years ago, motorists sat on that same interstate for more than 20 hours in traffic jams caused by the evacuation for Hurricane Floyd.

"We certainly know how to do it because we have done it a number of times," McMaster said.

Georgia is pulling out its well-used plan to reverse the lanes of Interstate 16 out of Savannah starting Tuesday morning. In Florida, tolls were suspended on many freeways with few reports of gridlock or long lines.

FBI: West Texas gunman 'was on a long spiral of going down'

ODESSA, Texas (AP)—The gunman in a West Texas rampage "was on a long spiral of going down" and had been fired from his oil services job the morning he killed seven people, calling 911 both before and after the shooting began, authorities said Monday.

Officers killed 36-year-old Seth Aaron Ator on Saturday outside a busy Odessa movie theater after a spate of violence that spanned 10 miles (16 kilometers), injuring around two dozen people in addition to the dead.

FBI special agent Christopher Combs said Ator called the agency's tip line as well as local police dispatch on Saturday after being fired from Journey Oilfield Services, making "rambling statements about some of the atrocities that he felt that he had gone through."

"He was on a long spiral of going down," Combs said. "He didn't wake up Saturday morning and walk into his company and then it happened. He went to that company in trouble."

Fifteen minutes after the call to the FBI, Combs said, a Texas state trooper unaware of the calls to authorities tried pulling over Ator for failing to signal a lane change. That was

when Ator pointed an AR-style rifle toward the rear window of his car and fired on the trooper, starting a terrifying police chase as Ator sprayed bullets into passing cars, shopping plazas and killed a U.S. Postal Service employee while hijacking her mail truck.

Combs said Ator "showed up to work enraged" but did not point to any specific source of his anger. Ator's home on the outskirts of Odessa was a corrugated metal shack along a dirt road surrounded by trailers, mobile homes and oil pump jacks. On Monday, a green car without a rear windshield was parked out front, the entire residence cordoned off by police tape.

Combs described it as a "strange residence" that reflected "what his mental state was going into this." Combs said he did not know whether Ator had been diagnosed with any prior mental health problems.

A neighbor, Rocio Gutierrez, told The Associated Press that Ator was "a violent, aggressive person" that would shoot at animals, mostly rabbits, at all hours of the night.

"We were afraid of him because you could tell what kind of person he was just by look-

ing at him," Gutierrez said. "He was not nice, he was not friendly, he was not polite."

The daylight attack over the Labor Day holiday weekend came just weeks after another mass shooting killed 22 people in the Texas border city of El Paso. Authorities have not said how Ator obtained the gun used in the shooting, but Ator had previously failed a federal background check for a firearm, said John Wester, an agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Wester did not say when Ator failed the background check or why.

Online court records show Ator was arrested in 2001 for a misdemeanor offense that would not have prevented him from legally purchasing firearms in Texas. Federal law defines nine categories that would legally prevent a person from owning a gun, which include being convicted of a felony, a misdemeanor domestic violence charge, being adjudicated as a "mental defect" or committed to a mental institution, the subject of a restraining order or having an active warrant. Authorities have said Ator had no active warrants at the time of the shooting.

Asia

Rights group skeptical that Myanmar's military seeks justice

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Plans announced by Myanmar's military to prosecute soldiers for actions at a village where security forces reportedly killed as many as 400 members of the Muslim Rohingya minority drew skepticism Monday from the New York-based rights group Human Rights Watch.

The military announced over the weekend that investigations had determined that orders were not properly followed at a village in Rakhine state. It gave no dates or other details of the offense, but said a court martial is being convened to act "in accordance with the military discipline due to the weakness in following the instructions in some of the incidents at Gutabyin village."

The Associated Press reported in January last year that evidence indicated that security forces had carried out a massacre in the village, also known as Gu Dar Pyin, and that the victims were buried in at least five mass graves. The military—known in Myanmar as the Tatmadaw—denied the report, and it is unknown if the new announcement is related to the same incident.

Human Rights Watch said Monday that the announcement did not indicate a change of attitude by the military, which denies carrying out abuses in a self-proclaimed counter-insurgency campaign two years ago that resulted in more than 700,000 Rohingya fleeing to neighboring Bangladesh. It has said its military operations in Rakhine were

justified in response to attacks by Rohingya insurgents.

Many human rights groups have accused Myanmar of carrying out genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya. A U.N. fact-finding mission has documented major abuses in Rakhine since 2016, including widespread killings and torching of villages, and said its findings warrant prosecution for war crimes and crimes against humanity in a forum such as the International Criminal Court.

"The Tatmadaw's decision to court-martial a few soldiers is hardly enough when we're talking atrocities that included

murder, torture, rape and arson that destroyed people and their communities. This court-martial looks like just another game to divert international attention by sacrificing a few low-level scapegoats," Phil Robertson, deputy director of the Asia division of Human Rights Watch, said in an email, urging that it should be the military's top commanders who face punishment.

"You can tell the Tatmadaw are not serious since they refuse to review their overall operation and hide these court-martial proceedings behind closed doors, out of sight of the public and media," Rob-

ertson said. "No one should be fooled to think this action marks any change of attitude in Myanmar's military, which is still denying they violated the rights of the Rohingya in the first place, and seeking to evade all international accountability for their crimes."

Myanmar has rejected the legitimacy of the U.N.'s fact-finding mission and asserted it is carrying out its own investigations. The announcement of the planned prosecutions came after what it said was investigations carried out by the military's own Court of Inquiry.

Radhika Coomaraswamy, a Sri Lankan lawyer who is one

of the U.N. mission's three international experts, last month told an informal Security Council meeting on accountability in Myanmar that they believe a domestic judicial process is not possible at this time.

She pointed to seven soldiers who were sentenced to up to 10 years in prison with hard labor for the killings of 10 Rohingya villagers but then were released after just nine months "because of the national and political pressure." The arrests followed an investigation by two Reuters journalists who were imprisoned for their reporting on the killings.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Lam says she hasn't resigned because it's easy way out

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam says she has never tendered her resignation to China over the anti-government protests that have roiled the city for three months. Lam was asked repeatedly at a news briefing Tuesday about a Reuters report citing leaked audio of her telling business leaders recently that she would quit "if I had a choice." Lam said she did voice her frustrations during the private meeting but also explained that quitting was an easy way out for her amid the prolonged crisis. She also slammed the recording and leaking of her comments as "unacceptable." Lam was elected as Hong Kong's chief executive by a pro-Beijing committee of Hong Kong elites and has come under withering criticism for pushing the widely opposed extradition bill that set off the protests.

10 students injured in Chinese elementary school attack

BEIJING (AP)—Ten students were injured Monday in an attack at an elementary school in central China, officials said. The attack occurred about 8 a.m. on the first day of the new semester in Enshi city in Hubei province, local authorities said in a statement. The wounded students were taken to a hospital. A suspect was in custody and was being investigated. The motive for the attack was unclear and

no further details were immediately available. In June last year, two children were stabbed to death by a man outside an elementary school in Shanghai. In April last year, nine were killed and more than a dozen injured outside a middle school in northwestern Shaanxi province by an attacker who allegedly was a former pupil seeking revenge for having been bullied.

Indian landing module ready for touchdown on moon surface

NEW DELHI (AP)—The landing module of India's unmanned moon mission separated from the orbiter on Monday ahead of its planned touchdown on the moon's south polar region this weekend, the space agency said. All the systems of the orbiter and the lander are "healthy," the Indian Space Research Organization said in a statement. Monday's maneuver removed the lander from the orbiter's top, where it had been sitting since the mission took off from southern India on July 22. The module has reached a distance of about 100 kilometers (62 miles) from the moon's surface, the space agency said. It will attempt India's first moon landing on a relatively flat surface on Saturday to study previously discovered water deposits. The roughly \$140 million mission is known as Chandrayaan-2, the Sanskrit word for "moon craft." Chandrayaan-1 orbited the moon in 2008 and helped confirm the presence of water.



Bangladesh border guards stand at Ghumdum on the Bangladesh Myanmar border, Bangladesh, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019. AP

New Zealand couple among dead in Philippine lightplane crash

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A New Zealand couple was among nine people killed in a small plane that was conducting a medical airlift when it crashed and exploded in flames at a resort south of Manila and investigators are trying to determine what caused the tragedy, officials said Monday.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Wellington said it was providing consular assistance to the family of the couple "who sadly died in the plane crash in the Philippines," but that it could not provide any other information for privacy reasons.

Philippine authorities identified the couple as Tom Carr and Erma Carr, a Filipina with New Zealand citizenship. Friends said Tom Carr went by his middle name, Laurence.

The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines said it was investigating why the Beechcraft King Air plane carrying the couple and seven

Filipinos, including a medical team, crashed Sunday in Pansol village in Laguna province as it approached its destination, Manila.

Eric Apolonio, a CAAP spokesman, said the plane suddenly plummeted out of radar range near Mount Makiling over Pansol, a resort village popular for swimming pools and hot springs. He declined to speculate on what caused the crash.

Videos posted by witnesses online showed smoke coming from the plane as it flew low over trees and houses before crashing and igniting a fire in a resort compound, where nine bodies were retrieved from the wreckage.

Two resort caretakers sustained burns and were taken to hospital, police said.

Only eight people on board the plane were listed in the manifest, including Laurence Carr, who Apolonio said was the patient being transported from southern Dipolog city in

Zamboanga del Norte province to Manila. Carr's wife, Erma, was not listed on the manifest although she was on board the 11-seater plane and investigators will try to find out why, Apolonio said.

Friends expressed shock over the couple's sudden death. They were scheduled to fly back to New Zealand in a few weeks to celebrate their birthdays.

Lynne Ariston-Smith, who is originally from the Philippines, told The Associated Press in New Zealand that she had been a close friend of Erma Carr since she married Laurence Carr and moved to New Zealand a little over 20 years ago.

"She was loved by everybody and was a very loving person, too," Ariston-Smith said.

The couple had traveled to the Philippines to spend six months with Erma's family. Last month, Erma Carr wrote on Facebook that she had wanted to spend time with her

brother in the Philippines who was very ill.

Ariston-Smith said Laurence was a retired farmer while Erma was very active helping at her children's primary school in the small North Island town of Ruakaka where the couple lived. Erma Carr was also very close to a group of Catholics and other Christian friends who did good work in the community, she said.

Laurence, who was in his early 70s, had been suffering from some health problems, Ariston-Smith said, and Erma, who was in her early 50s, had been helping look after him.

The couple had one adult child together, Vincent, and had recently adopted Erma's nephew and niece from the Philippines, Nino and Nina, aged about 11 and 9.

"I think I'm still in shock," Ariston-Smith said. "She was supposed be back on the 20th for her and Laurence's birthdays."

World

Dorian triggers massive flooding in Bahamas; at least 5 dead

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—Hurricane Dorian unleashed massive flooding across the Bahamas on Monday, pummeling the islands with so much wind and water that authorities urged people to find floatation devices and grab hammers to break out of their attics if necessary. At least five deaths were blamed on the storm.

"We are in the midst of a historic tragedy," Prime Minister Hubert Minnis said in announcing the fatalities. He called the devastation "unprecedented and extensive."

The fearsome Category 4 storm slowed almost to a standstill as it shredded roofs, hurled cars and forced even rescue crews to take shelter until the onslaught passed.

Officials said they received a "tremendous" number of calls from people in flooded homes. A radio station received more than 2,000 distress messages, including reports of a 5-month-old baby stranded on a roof and a grandmother with six grandchildren who cut a hole in a roof to escape rising floodwaters. Other reports involved a group of eight children and five adults stranded on a highway and two storm shelters that flooded.

The deaths in the Bahamas came after a previous storm-related fatality in Puerto Rico. At least 21 people were hurt in the Bahamas and evacuated by helicopters, the prime minister said.

Police Chief Samuel Butler urged people to remain calm and share their GPS coordinates, but he said rescue crews had to wait until weather con-



AP
Anastacia Makey, 43, far right, looks at her phone as she and her family sits on cots with other residents inside a church that was opened up as a shelter as they wait out Hurricane Dorian in Freeport on Grand Bahama, Bahamas, Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019.

on nearby cays. "We are in search-and-recovery mode. ... Continue to pray for us."

A spokesman for Bahamas Power and Light told ZNS that there was a blackout in New Providence, the archipelago's most populous island. He said the company's office in Abaco island was flattened.

"The reports out of Abaco as everyone knows," spokesman Quincy Parker said, pausing for a deep sigh, "were not good."

Most people went to shelters as the storm neared. Tourist hotels shut down, and residents boarded up their homes. Many people were expected to be left homeless.

ditions improved.

"We simply cannot get to you," he told Bahamas radio station ZNS.

Forecasters warned that Dorian could generate a storm surge as high as 23 feet (7 meters).

Meanwhile in the United States, the National Hurricane Center extended watches and warnings across the Florida and Georgia coasts. Forecasters expected Dorian to stay off shore, but meteorologist Daniel Brown cautioned that "only a small deviation" could draw the storm's dangerous core toward land.

By 11 p.m. EDT Monday, the storm's top sustained

winds had fallen to 130 mph (220 kph), still within Category 4 range. It remained almost stationary, centered just 30 miles (55 kilometers) north-northeast of Freeport—about the same distance from the city it had been at 9 a.m. Hurricane-force winds extended outward as far as 45 miles (75 kilometers) from the center.

The water reached roofs and the tops of palm trees. One woman filmed water lapping at the stairs of her home's second floor.

In Freeport, Dave Mackey recorded video showing water and floating debris surging around his house as the wind

shrieked outside.

"Our house is 15 feet up, and right now where that water is is about 8 feet. So we're pretty concerned right now because we're not at high tide," said Mackey, who shared the video with The Associated Press. "Our garage door has already come off. ... Once we come out of it with our lives, we're happy."

On Sunday, Dorian churned over Abaco Island with battering winds and surf and heavy flooding.

Parliament member Darren Henfield described the damage as "catastrophic" and said officials did not have information on what happened

WORLD BRIEFS

Trump blimp in Copenhagen on day he was scheduled to arrive

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—Although U.S. President Donald Trump has canceled a visit to Denmark, his effigy is here in the form of a 20-foot blimp that has become synonymous with resistance to the American president. The angry, diaper-clad caricature armed with a cellphone known as "Baby Trump" was floating in the air Monday above a downtown Copenhagen square. Since the president last month canceled his Sept. 2-3 trip to NATO member Denmark after leaders there mocked his desire to purchase Greenland, the organizers of anti-Trump demonstrations have decided to carry on with their planned rally and decided to fly the blimp. Trump also has called off a planned trip to Poland to deal with Hurricane Dorian at home, and sent Vice President Mike Pence instead.

Algeria army chief wants presidential election in December

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP)—Algeria's powerful army chief says that the date of the nation's long-delayed presidential election should be announced on Sept. 15 to quickly pull the nation out of political limbo. By law, elections come 90 days after an announcement, which would mean a December vote. The official APS news agency quoted

Ahmed Gaid Salah as saying on Monday that an independent body "for the preparation, organization and surveillance of the election" should be quickly installed. The country has been without an elected leader since longtime President Abdelaziz Bouteflika was forced out in April, in part by a grassroots revolt that still holds weekly protests. Many in the vast protest movement seek a transition period toward democracy rather than a quick election, and worry over Gaid Salah's growing role as behind-the-scenes powerbroker.

German soldier assaulted in Berlin in possible hate crime

BERLIN (AP)—Berlin police say a 25-year-old soldier with Turkish roots was assaulted in the capital by two men saying he didn't have the right to wear a German military uniform. Police spokesman Martin Halweg said the soldier, whose rank is the equivalent of a private first class, was walking in the Neukoelln district Monday morning when two men punched and kicked him from behind, saying "only Germans are permitted to wear the uniform." He says the soldier has both Turkish and German citizenships and has a Turkish last name, which was withheld for privacy reasons, that was displayed on his uniform. He was treated in a hospital for a leg injury. The suspects fled the scene and details about them are being withheld as police investigate.

Russian crackdown on protesters seen as intimidation tactic

MOSCOW (AP)—In just a few days, Sergei Abanichev was arrested, thrown in jail and charged with a crime that could keep him behind bars for up to eight years—all, he says, for throwing a paper cup into the air at an opposition protest in Moscow.

The 25-year-old sales manager got caught up in an investigation into what Russian authorities describe as rioting. Fourteen people were charged, mostly random protesters with no history of political activism. Analysts say the probe is an attempt to crack down on anti-Kremlin dissent with trivial accusations that range from throwing the cup to directing the crowd to step off the pavement.

Vyacheslav Abanichev was at his family's summer cottage outside Moscow when his son called to say that a group of unknown men were banging

on the door of the family's apartment. Only hours later did the man who eventually knocked down the door identify the group as police officers and investigators.

The Abanichevs did not know what to think when they were told that their son was a witness in a rioting case. Later that day, he came out of a meeting with investigators and told his parents that he was identified in a video from the July 27 protest as someone who threw a beer can at police.

"He had an empty paper cup," the elder Abanichev said, quoting his son's account. "He told us that the police were trying to push out the crowd, and that he threw out the cup, and that was that."

Later that day, his son was named a suspect in the rioting case and taken to jail. On Aug. 3, a court ruled that he must

stay in custody for two months during the probe.

"When he remembered about that paper cup, I was baffled," the father said. "I'm still baffled. I can't understand what they're keeping him, a random person, in jail for."

Anti-government protests erupted in Moscow in mid-July after election officials barred a dozen opposition candidates from running for the Moscow city legislature. Authorities originally allowed the weekend protests to go unhindered but later outlawed the gatherings and started detaining and beating the demonstrators, which only helped to swell the crowds.

On July 27, thousands thronged the area around Moscow's main drag where authorities deployed a formidable riot police force. Officers were seen detaining and often

beating men and women alike. In frustration, some bystanders hurled plastic bottles at police, and some tried to force their way past police lines.

Protesters were not seen attacking the police. No property damage was reported either.

Yegor Zhukov, a 21-year-old student and blogger, is now in jail for at least two months after investigators said they have footage of him directing the crowd off the pavement and onto a busy street.

Valery Kostenok, a 20-year-old student who had been collecting signatures for one of the candidates, was arrested and charged with rioting after investigators claimed that he threw two empty plastic bottles at police. Kostenok admitted later in court to throwing the bottles in anger but insisted that the empty bottles could not hurt anyone.

Focus

Decades after fleeing, Kashmiri Hindus still FEAR GOING BACK



In this Aug. 29, 2019, photo, Kashmiri Hindu man, Sham Lal, 63 performs evening prayers at the Muthi migrant camp in Jammu, India. Tens of thousands of Kashmiri Hindus fled the restive region nearly 30 years ago, and the ghost of insurgency and their mass exodus still haunts them. They celebrated after India's Hindu nationalist-led government stripped political autonomy from its part of Muslim-majority Kashmir on Aug. 5. Kashmiri Hindus view it as a step toward justice and possible return to their homeland. But many are still wary of returning.

NEW DELHI (AP)—Dr. L.N. Dhar vividly remembers the cold morning in Kashmir nearly 30 years ago. He left behind his plush bungalow and a prestigious job at a government hospital, becoming a refugee on the run almost overnight, with nothing but a small bag hurriedly stuffed with whatever clothes and cash he could grab.

He was heeding warnings blared over loudspeakers outside mosques in the Muslim-majority region and on graffiti on walls and windows across the main city of Srinagar.

Kashmiri Hindus got three options: convert to Islam, leave or be killed, Dhar said.

“For a peace-loving citizen, for an educated class of people, our option was that we left that place,” he said near his home in New Delhi. “That was the only option. We had no other choice.”

Now, Dhar and thousands of other Kashmiris Hindus native to the South Asian region could get an opportunity to return to their homeland after India's Hindu nationalist-led government suddenly stripped political autonomy from its part of Kashmir, tightening its grip in the restive region. But many are wary.

Kashmir's special status dates to 1947, when India and Pakistan won independence from British rule. Each claimed the region, and they have fought two of their three wars over it, with each now controlling part of it.

The decision to end the status was

widely celebrated by Kashmiri Hindus across India — in sharp contrast to the barricaded streets of Srinagar and sporadic but short-lived protests against the government's move.

India imposed a security and communications lockdown before the Aug. 5 decision to avoid an uprising in its only Muslim-majority state, Jammu and Kashmir. Mobile phone services have yet to be restored, leaving Kashmir almost isolated from the rest of the world. A curfew is in place, and Kashmiri leaders have been detained.

In 1990, Dhar and his family were among more than 60,000 families that fled the alpine forested Himalayan valley, leaving behind homes, land and other property that many would never retrieve.

It was the beginning of one of the bloodiest decades in Kashmir's tormented history, with violence that killed tens of thousands, including Hindu and Muslim civilians, armed rebels and Indian security forces.

Separatist political groups calling for an independent Kashmir had built weapons caches and were gaining popular support. In response to attacks by armed rebels, the Indian government in September 1990 extended a law that gave its armed forces authority to arrest or kill in Kashmir with no or little warning to try to maintain order.

What ensued was near-unabated violence that has turned Kashmir into a battleground.

Vijay Kaul, 72, reminisces about life in the picturesque valley, before the violence began.

“One of the best things about the people of Kashmir was that there was a sense of unity among them, no matter what religion they belonged to,” said Kaul, a Kashmiri Hindu whose family had lived in a 170-year-old palatial home near Srinagar for centuries.

While an insurgency against Indian rule strengthened in the late 1980s and early 1990s, with attacks on government forces and ultimately Kashmiri Hindus, Kaul stayed put with his family.

At first, he didn't heed warnings from separatists because of his belief in “Kashmiriyat” — which means an eternal state of peace, harmony and living to help each other.

It wasn't until an explosive went off near a compound wall of his residence that they decided to leave. He and his wife, Varuna, packed whatever they could and set off with their two young children for the city of Jammu — the state's Hindu-majority pocket.

“That was the most terrifying night of my life,” Varuna Kaul said. “It was only after we crossed over to Jammu that I felt relieved.”

Anywhere from 150,000 to

300,000 Kashmiri Hindus have fled since 1990, according to the Indian government. But Kashmiri Hindu organizations say that is a drastic underestimate.

Panun Kashmir, a New Delhi-based organization that demands a separate state for Kashmiri Hindus, estimates the number of displaced Hindus at 700,000.

Kashmiri Hindu families moved to migrant camps that were later converted into housing complexes in Jammu and New Delhi. Many have pending court cases accusing people in Kashmir of encroaching or seizing their properties there.

But even if they win those cases, many Kashmiri Hindus believe it is not safe to return.

Many view revoking Kashmir's special status as a step in the right direction for justice, but they demand more be done.

Sumeer Churugoo, president of Kashmiri Samiti, an organization of Kashmiri Hindus in New Delhi, said they “will not return to the same environment they had left.”

“If we go back, we will go with conditions that uphold our honor and dignity,” he said.

Others, like Vijay Kaul, urge the government to show restraint and resolve the issue peacefully.

“There needs to be a strong stress on brotherhood and living in peace. Everyone has the right to live, to speak and to dissent. There is no religion higher than humanity,” Kaul said.



A Kashmiri woman shouts freedom slogans during a protest in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, Friday, Aug. 30, 2019. India's government, led by the Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, decided Aug. 5 to downgrade the autonomy of Muslim-majority Kashmir and instituted a security lockdown and communications blackout to avoid violence. Authorities say they have eased some of the restrictions.

Good Housekeeping

30 gardening chores to tackle in September



TNS

September is a great month for reseeding and fertilizing lawns.

By JESSICA DAMIANO
NEWSDAY

The harvest is slowing and the annuals are fading, but we gardeners can't rest quite yet (when do we ever?). It's time to prepare for the change in seasons: relocate shrubs and perennials so their roots have time to settle in before frost; give trees extra TLC to help make it through winter; weed so fewer pests sprout in spring; and gather up the last of the fruit, vegetable and herbs. And that's just a start — it's also time to plant! To keep you on track, here are 30 chores, one for each day of the month.

- 1 Now is the best time to rejuvenate or reseed the lawn.
- 2 It's Labor Day — fertilize established lawns (not

new ones) one last time for the year. Use a slow-release product for best results.

- 3 Divide and transplant overgrown peonies.
- 4 Sow lettuce, arugula, mustard green, collard, kale, spinach and Asian green seeds directly into the garden for a fall harvest.

5 Plant (unpeeled) garlic cloves, pointy ends up, 2 inches deep and 3 to 6 inches apart in full sun. They'll come up in spring.

- 6 Don't let weeds go to seed! Pull them now — by their roots — and dispose in the trash.
- 7 Take 2- to 6-inch cuttings of coleus and begonias (just below a node), place indoors in a glass of water (change daily) until roots sprout, then plant in soil in a pot and grow by a window

until spring.

8 Pick late-summer blooms from the cutting garden for a thoughtful Grandparents' Day token.

- 9 Inspect evergreens (especially dwarf Alberta spruce) for spider mites. If found, blast them with hose water and repeat every week this month.
- 10 Remove faded annuals and perennials. Not only does a tidy garden look better, it discourages pests and diseases from settling in.

11 Continue to water trees and shrubs, especially newly planted ones, until hard frost.

- 12 Place final orders for spring bulbs for planting next month.
- 13 Harvest grapes!

single layer on paper towels overnight, then freeze in zippered bags.

- 14 Bring in tender pond plants and keep them moist near a sunny window until spring.
- 15 Divide and transplant spring bloomers, like lily of the valley, perennial phlox and Dutch iris.

16 Don't prune spring-flowering shrubs now or you'll remove buds — and they will be flowerless next year.

- 17 If tomato plants are still producing flowers, remove them so the plant can divert energy to ripening fruit before frost.
- 18 If the innermost needles of evergreens are turning brown and dropping, relax. It's normal for this time of year.

19 Cut down basil and parsley, remove leaves, rinse and dry in a

- 20 Plant perennials now to allow time for them to become established before frost hits.
- 21 Plant witch hazel, red-twig dogwood, deciduous holly and beautyberry now, and you'll have something nice to look at over winter.

22 Move vacationing houseplants into shade for a few days, then rinse off insects and bring indoors until next summer.

- 23 It's the first day of autumn. Make a summer soup with the last of the garden's produce. Don't forget the herbs!
- 24 Test soil and add lime, if necessary. It will work to raise pH by spring.

25 Keep watering trees and shrubs, especially young ones, until hard frost. And evergreens should continue to get drinks during winter dry spells.

- 26 Pot up small rosemary plants and keep indoors near a sunny window for offseason supply.
- 27 Dig up gladiolus, elephant ears and cannas. Learn how to overwinter them at newsday.com/gardening101.

28 Divide day lilies and transplant into garden gaps.

- 29 Shanah Tovah! Enjoy homegrown apple slices dipped in local honey for a special Rosh Hashanah treat.
- 30 When their tops flop over, dig up onions, cure in the sun three to five days, then store indoors in a cool, dry spot.

How to prevent weeds in patio planters

How to prevent weeds in patio planters

By JESSICA DAMIANO
NEWSDAY

Dear Jessica: I have a terrace and always have success with my plants, but for some reason grass is growing along with my flowers. I went to my local nursery and was advised to put down Spanish moss to prevent more grass growing. It has helped a little but not enough. Why is this happening? And can you give me some advice on how to get rid of it and prevent it from happening in the future?

— Maria Conte

Dear Maria: You don't say whether you bought larger plants already settled into their containers or if you transplanted seedlings into pots using potting mix or garden soil.

I always advise folks never to use garden soil to start seeds or fill containers because, in addition to being heavy and dense — which isn't optimal for containers, seeds or seedlings — it can harbor weeds and seeds, diseases and pests.

If you didn't use garden soil, it's entirely possible the potting mix used (whether by you or the nursery) was contaminated with grass or weed seeds. For this reason, only purchase high-quality, sterile potting mixes, and start with fresh mix every year.

If you reused a container without thoroughly cleaning it, residual soil debris may have contaminated your plants. When reusing pots, always wash them in hot, soapy water, and disinfect them us-



TNS

Rose campion growing in a garden.

ing a 90-10 water-to-bleach solution, then rinse well before planting.

There's also a chance that airborne seeds are landing in your pots. It's less likely than the other scenarios, but possible especially if your terrace is on the ground level and right above a lawn.

Applying a quality mulch made of hardwood or pine bark (Spanish moss works, too) to the soil surface will go a long way toward eliminating weeds because seeds that settle on the surface will have difficulty germinating. Mulch also prevents light from reaching the soil, creating another deterrent; Spanish moss serves the same purpose. However, if seeds already in the soil have sprouted and taken root, mulch won't likely dissuade them. For now, dig up the grass by its roots, then top dress with quality mulch. Following these guidelines should prevent a reoccurrence next year.

Dear Jessica: My friend

gave me, a plant she calls "Louis flower," but thinks she made up that name. Can you please tell me what this plant is, and in what conditions it will thrive?

— Mary Ellen Gambardella

Dear Mary Ellen: Your plant is rose campion (*Lychnis coronaria*). Growing up to 3 feet tall, the plant, with its velvety silver foliage, branched stems and showy magenta flowers, thrives in full sun and blooms in late spring and early summer. In addition, the clump-forming profuse bloomer is deer- and drought-tolerant, and self-sows readily. If you don't want it to spread, be sure to deadhead flowers as they fade.

Rose campion doesn't typically take kindly to being transplanted, so if you'd like to propagate it, collect seeds when they form, store them in a paper envelope in the refrigerator (away from fruit) and sow directly in the garden early the following spring.



Ailanthus altissima, known as Chinese sumac or tree-of-heaven, is native to China. In the late 1700s, it was brought to the U.S. as an attractive, fast-growing ornamental tree. Since then it has spread throughout much of North America. Dense thickets of it entrench fields and forests, displace native species, destroy habitats and crowd agricultural fields and roadsides. Complete eradication is extremely difficult, as it regrows vigorously even when most of the plant is thought to be removed, and it is tolerant of poor soil and drought.

— B. Weaver

Sources: www.invasive.org, www.nature.org

Life & Style

Zellweger brings personal insights to her role in 'Judy'

By **AMY KAUFMAN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Renee Zellweger knows what it's like to be a public target. At 50, she's lived half her life in the spotlight, weathering tabloid stories about her weight, plastic surgery and high-profile relationships (Jim Carrey, Kenny Chesney).

So when it came to playing Judy Garland—whose struggle with substance abuse, financial troubles and custody battles were all grist for the mill—little surprised the actress. Not even learning that in the last years of Garland's life, British audiences literally pelted her with bread rolls when they were displeased

during her sold-out run at the cabaret club Talk of the Town, inviting scorn from critics and ticket holders.

In writing the screenplay, based on playwright Peter Quilter's 2005 musical "End of the Rainbow," Tom Edge ("The Crown," "Lovesick") did not reach out to the Luft children or Garland's older daughter, Liza Minnelli, who recently said, "I do not approve nor sanction the upcoming film about Judy Garland in any way." Lorna Luft had already written a memoir, 1998's "Me and My Shadows," so he felt that "a little distance" from the children would prove useful in remaining neutral.

about things that ultimately don't matter, right?" Zellweger says. Instead, she dug into publicly available material, watching old films, listening to concert recordings and reading numerous Garland biographies, some written by those who claimed to be close to her like her last husband, Mickey Deans.

"Every night, there was something new to go to sleep with, reading and watching to make sure there wasn't a tiny little gemstone hidden in the mix," she says. "But considering the source was a challenge—trying to understand the truth or the depth of the relationship. Having had some experience with that myself,



Renee Zellweger and Finn Wittrock in 'Judy.'

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX/BBC/TNS

fore filming.

"There was freedom in knowing (she had) nights where there were misses and compromise and inability to access her full instrument," Zellweger acknowledges, referring to the decline in Garland's vocal abilities. "Having that in the back of my mind was liberating. I could just be. It also brought a little bit of truth to the experience, because from my understanding, she was afraid that she

would not perform at the level to which people had expected from her and she experienced stage fright. So the mix made it very real and true."

Unlike in the play, Edge says he included a glimpse of Garland's adolescence in the film to give audiences a sense of what she overcame. MGM studio head Louis B. Mayer referred to her as his "little hunchback," and Garland revealed later in life that he touched her inappropriately.

"I think she certainly felt like the way that she was treated in those studio days was at least partly responsible for the things she struggled with later in life," Goold says. "The pity of it is that this terrifically funny and talented and charismatic kid ended up on the other side of that system carrying so much damage. Yet at the same time, she endured and found her way back to her audience."

Everybody has a bad day and can be misunderstood.

with her performance.

"It wasn't shocking because I've never known any different," Zellweger says. "It might have been a little less direct then than it can be today, where you will be unapologetically asked about the nature or health of your personal, intimate relationships and the private choices you make."

In Rupert Goold's "Judy," which opens Sept. 27, Zellweger plays Garland in the final months of her life. It's 1968 and the "Wizard of Oz" star at 46 is no longer America's sweetheart. Millions of dollars in debt, she's in London, the only place she can find a paying gig. Away from her children, she's drinking heavily and popping the pills that Hollywood studios forced on her during her adolescence. She turns up late or out-of-tune

Zellweger, however, says she felt torn about speaking to Garland's kids.

"I wanted to reach out not to ask questions, except to maybe ask what they would like or hope to see," she says. "I figured that whatever was for public consumption, they had already shared at this point. I could find that. I wouldn't dream of calling and asking, 'Hey, what else can you share here? Because that'd be so helpful.' To me, what they haven't shared is treasure and that belongs to them and that's where it should stay."

The actress tried to connect with Minnelli through a mutual friend but wasn't successful. Luft was diagnosed with a brain tumor just as filming began. "That was a time for her and her family, not for a stranger to approach her

maybe I knew to sniff it out and be skeptical about 'first-hand accounts.' Everybody has a bad day and can be misunderstood."

"Judy" director Goold says he liked the idea of Zellweger as Garland because the star so often has been "presented almost as a gargoyle," the filmmaker says. He hoped Zellweger could channel Garland's warmer side. But he was also didn't want the "Bridget Jones" star to do a note-for-note impression. "That's what people do on cruise ships," Goold says. " "

Zellweger has sung in films before, most memorably as Roxie Hart in the 2002 adaptation of "Chicago." But she says she was scared when Goold requested that she belt out Garland's classics on set instead of in a studio be-

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Jebora Wabol Karben

Lovingly known as Jeb
Born on June 12, 1976 • Called to Eternal Life on August 24, 2019



In her new life, she now joins her:

Paternal Grandparents: †Carmen Lisua Igisomar Wabol
†Jesus Taisakan Wabol
†Frances Rebuénog

Sister: †Wally Wabol

Brother: †Amram Karben

Father in-law: †Amram Karben

She will forever be missed by her:

Husband: Brandy Karben

Children:

- Leila
- Letitia
- Sander
- Don
- Christyann (Noel) & Children
- Sitsiro (Casia) & Children

Mother: Rosa Abner

Father: Bonifacio I. Wabol

Step-Mother: Linda J. Wabol

Mother In-Law: Teline Johnathan

Brothers & Sisters: †Frances Rebuénog (David Deleon Guerrero) & Children
Janet W. Karben (Pruter) & Children
Tonorio Wabol (Jaqueline) & Children
†Wally Wabol (Jomi) & Children
Mibel Abner (Jiro) & Children

Brother & Sisters In-Law:

- Barry Karben
- Della Karben
- Mike Karben
- Hemity Karben
- Fred Karben
- Kiomi Christy Karben



She will be greatly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends.

On Sept. 18, 2019 at 5 pm (Hawaii Time) her remains will leave the Dodo Mortuary Home in Hilo Hawaii to Dodo Chapel for family services 5pm – 9pm. At 9pm her remains will be escorted from the Dodo Chapel to the Marshall Assembly of God Church for overnight public viewing. On Sept. 19, 2019 at 2pm her remains will leave the church to Alae Cemetery where she will be laid to peaceful rest.

THE FAMILY

Joaquin Phoenix discusses preparing for role in 'Joker'

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Joaquin Phoenix is having a hard time defining the Joker, but then again, he doesn't really want to.

The actor spent eight months exploring how a struggling stand-up comedian named Arthur Fleck becomes Batman's antagonist, the villain with a chilling laugh and a love of chaos. Preparing for the role involved losing quite a bit of weight, studying personality disorders and practicing the laugh over and over again.

"(It's) very difficult to distill into a soundbite," Phoenix said Saturday in advance of the world premiere of "Joker" at the Venice International Film Festival. The film is competing for the Golden Lion award at the prestigious festival before launching in theaters on Oct. 4.

The extreme weight loss—reportedly over 50 pounds—led to a kind of madness that helped him get ready for the role, as did a book breaking down the personality types of political assassins. But Phoenix wanted to create a criminal psychopath who wasn't easy to categorize.

"I didn't want a psychologist to be able to identify what kind of person he was," he said. "(I) wanted there to remain a mystery about the character."

And he was so nervous about getting the laugh right that he asked writer-director Todd Phillips to come to his place so he could "audition" a few, which apparently went on for an uncomfortable amount of time.

The character constantly



Actor Joaquin Phoenix poses for photographers at the photo call for the film 'Joker' at the 76th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Saturday, Aug. 31, 2019.

evolved, even into the shoot. Composer Hildur Guðnadóttir's haunting score—which she began writing off the script—became a key motivator during the process. Phillips often played snippets on set to help set the tone.

"We were discovering new aspects about his personality up to the very last day," Phoenix said.

Sometimes the discoveries resulted in debates about whether or not to go back and reshoot.

On the long road to making "Joker" happen, that was par for the course. Phillips said in developing the script he and co-writer Scott Silver pushed each other every day to "come up with something totally insane."

The movie itself is a massive departure from the current mode of DC Comics films from Warner Bros, like "Wonder Woman" and "Justice League." It's not bound by the comics or informed by past portrayals ("This joker's goal

was not to watch the world burn," Phillips said) but strives to be something entirely new.

"It was a hard movie for us to get made and to convince DC and the studio," Phillips said. "And in fairness the studio took a bold swing with the movie and let us do exactly what we wanted...there really were no rules and boundaries for it."

Phillips describes it as a character study in the vein of the 1970s movies he grew up with, such as Martin Scorsese's "Taxi Driver" and "The King of Comedy."

Set in the late 1970s and early 1980s, with New York playing Gotham City, his R-rated "Joker" is bounded by gritty realism. It's led to some early concerns about the violence that audiences can expect from the film.

Phillips said there isn't that much and they were "very careful" with how violence was used in the film.

"A lot of people think it is going to be a really violent movie," Phillips said. "Why it might affect you is we tried to paint it with as realistic brush as possible so when it comes it can feel like a punch in the stomach."

As for any thematic similarities to current events, he added that he thinks movies are "oftentimes mirrors of society but they're never molders."

Early reactions to the film have further fueled Oscar buzz for Phoenix. to win one. The actor avoided acknowledging a question at a news conference in Venice about his prospects for winning his first Academy Award. He instead

praised the creative process.

"I don't think I've ever had an experience quite like this

one," Phoenix said. "The more unpredictable it was, the more inspiring it was."

Kristen Stewart wants to elevate Jean Seberg beyond haircut

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Kristen Stewart only knew Jean Seberg as an image.

The picture of the waif with the pixie haircut and the New York Herald Tribune shirt embodied the effortless chic associated with the ingénues of the French New Wave. But behind the haircut and her improbable ascent from obscurity to Hollywood stardom at age 17, there was a woman who was a passionate advocate for civil rights, surveilled by the FBI for years, driven to madness and who died well before her time.

It was a story that Stewart was keen to learn about and share with the world in with her portrayal of the "Breathless" actress in "Seberg," which premiered Friday at the 76th Venice Film Festival on the 40th anniversary of her death.

"Dismantling that (image) and seeing the unravelling of a woman is such a cool story to watch right now," Stewart said in a news conference. "To sacrifice something you really love for other people is a really admirable thing to see."

She described Seberg's story as "tragic for all the right reasons" and her subject as a "compassionate humanitarian in a time when people didn't want to stomach that."



Stewart

"We should definitely know her for more than the short haircut," Stewart said.

Director Benedict Andrews had a similar revelation about Seberg and described the film as an "American tragedy of a luminous life destroyed by an oppressive surveillance story."

"Seberg," which was in the works for over 15 years, explores the FBI's surveillance program targeting Seberg in the late 1960s for her association with civil rights activist Ham

kim Jamal, played by actor Anthony Mackie. Andrews' goal was for the audience to "get to know her through the gaze of the FBI." It co-stars Zazie Beetz and Jack O'Connell and will be released by Amazon Studios at an unspecified date.

"Seberg," which will also be making a stop at the Toronto International Film Festival next week, marks the beginning of a busy stretch for Stewart, who after years of favoring smaller indies, has two bigger budget endeavors coming soon to theaters: "Charlie's Angels," on Nov. 15, and "Underwater," on Jan. 9.

When asked if she was more ready for fame than she was after "Twilight," Stewart responded: "I'm ready for all of it."

Filmmaker Nate Parker apologizes for being 'tone deaf'

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Three years ago, filmmaker Nate Parker came under scrutiny for a rape allegation from his college days that essentially derailed the release of his Nat Turner film "The Birth of a Nation." Now, with a new film about police brutality debuting at the Venice International Film Festival, he is apologizing for how he responded then.

"Standing here today at 39, the reality is I was quite tone deaf ... to a lot of the things that happened in the climate," Parker said at a small news conference in Venice on Sunday. "My response obviously hurt a lot of people, frustrated and angered a lot of people and I apologize."

The film's inclusion in this year's festival, which also saw the premiere of a new Roman Polanski film, was criticized by some who saw it as incongruous with the progress that has been made in the culture in the #MeToo era. The

#MeToo movement, which references a Twitter hashtag used by victims to acknowledge experiences of sexual assault and harassment, gained international momentum in October 2017 after dozens of women accused movie mogul Harvey Weinstein of sexual misconduct.

Parker was accused of sexual assault when he was a sophomore at Penn State University. Although he was acquitted, the incident emerged in the press around the release of "The Birth of a Nation," a film which many expected to win awards. Parker responded then saying he was "falsely accused" and had been "vindicated" by the court.

A remorseful Parker was seated alongside Spike Lee, who is supporting the film, and producers Mark Burg and Tarak Ben Ammar hours before his new film premieres at the festival to some 650 people.

"I'm still learning and



Director Nate Parker, left, and actor Shane Paul McGhie pose for photographers at the photo call for the film 'American Skin' at the 76th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019.

growing and still feeling the need to make films that speak to things that need to change in our country and the world," Parker said. "And this topic was very dear to me."

The new film, "American Skin," stars Parker as an ex-Marine who sees his unarmed 14-year-old son mur-

dered by a police officer during a traffic stop. When the courts fail to hold the officer responsible, Parker's character Lincoln Jefferson decides to seek justice in his own way. Parker was inspired to write the film after Michael Brown was killed in Ferguson, Missouri.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Hearing held in Mario Batali's indecent assault case

BOSTON (AP)—A hearing has been held in the indecent assault and battery case against celebrity chef Mario Batali. A spokeswoman for Suffolk District Attorney Rachael Rollins said Batali didn't attend Friday's hearing at Boston Municipal Court and wasn't required to.

She also said no trial date was set. The case returns to court Sept. 4. Batali pleaded not guilty in May to forcibly kissing and groping a woman at a Boston restaurant in 2017. His career crumbled in the wake of that and other accusations of sexual misconduct. The accuser says Batali groped and kissed her repeatedly without her consent after he took a selfie with her. Batali's lawyer has said the charge is "without merit." Earlier this month Eataly USA bought out Batali's minority interest in the Italian marketplace company.

2 dozen injured in barricade collapse at Seattle music fest

SEATTLE (AP)—Officials say more than two dozen people were injured when a stage barricade collapsed during a performance at a Seattle music festival, although no one was seriously hurt. Seattle Fire Department spokesman David Cuerpo told news outlets that around 25 people were evaluated for injuries after the 4-foot-high (1-meter-high) steel barricade collapsed Saturday night at the Seattle Center, which is playing host to this weekend's Bumbershoot Music & Arts Festival. Electronic music artist Jai Wolf was performing at the time. Four people were hospitalized with minor injuries. Cuerpo says members of the crowd of around 3,000 people were pressed against the barrier, causing it to fall. Wolf canceled the rest of his set. The festival said in a statement that on-site medical teams assisted those injured.

For Timothée Chalamet, becoming 'The King' was terrifying



AP
Actor Timothée Chalamet signs autographs upon arrival for the photo call of the film 'The King' at the 76th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Monday, Sept. 2, 2019.

By **LINDSEY BAHR**
AP FILM WRITER

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Timothée Chalamet is already one of the most acclaimed young actors working today, but he says that the prospect playing young Henry V in "The King" was terrifying.

"It was a real challenge for me," Chalamet said Monday at the Venice International Film Festival, where the film is having its world premiere. "It was terrifying at the same time but I had an amazing time."

He was drawn to the project simply because he was out of his wheelhouse. The 23-year-old has been nominated for an Oscar, but he's never done stunts, worked with swords or played a role quite like this. And not many people his age have.

The film is drawn from Shakespeare's "Henry V" as well as "Henry IV" parts one and two. Co-writer and co-star Joel Edgerton, who plays Fal-

staff, had had a formative experience doing the plays. But they'd often cast older actors who had the perceived gravitas and experience for the part.

"There was a real aversion to using younger actors for these roles," Chalamet said. "At the time power was wielded by unusually young people... That felt new and unique to explore."

He said there is something "disturbed" about young people having so much power.

The film follows young Henry, or Hal, from his drunken days in Eastcheap to his early days as King of England, a position he never wanted and takes reluctantly when his father, Henry IV (Ben Mendelsohn), dies.

David Michôd ("War Machine") co-wrote the script with Edgerton and co-wrote the movie even though he never saw himself doing a "swords and horses" epic. But he was intrigued to put his own spin on the plays, adding things from

history and making up, "A whole bunch of stuff."

When asked about Robert Pattinson playing a dandy version of the Dauphin—the son of King Charles of France—and whether or not that was rooted in history, Michôd said, "I honestly can't remember what's real, what's made up and what's from Shakespeare."

But, he added, having worked with Pattinson before on "The Rover," that it was "important to me that when he appeared in the movie, he does so with razzle dazzle."

"The King" is playing out of competition at Venice, and is one of three Netflix films, including "The Laundromat" and "Marriage Story" making their debut on the Lido. It will open in theaters Oct. 11, before hitting Netflix on Nov. 1.

Chalamet, meanwhile, also has "Little Women" coming to theaters this Christmas, reuniting him with his "Lady Bird" director Greta Gerwig.

Wife says Hart 'going to be fine' after car crash

NEW YORK (AP)—Comic actor Kevin Hart's wife says he's "going to be just fine" following a weekend car crash that left him with a major back injury.

Eniko Hart was questioned by a TMZ reporter while visiting him at the hospital Monday. She gave no details beyond that assurance, and the actor's press representa-

tives did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Hart was a passenger in a 1970 Plymouth Barracuda that went off a highway above Malibu in the early morning hours

of Sunday. It rolled down an embankment, after police said the driver lost



Hart

control while turning from a canyon road onto Mulholland Highway.

The 40-year-old Hart and the car's driver, Jared Black, both had back injuries. Another passenger, 31-year-old Rebecca Broxterman, only complained of pain.

Rapper arrested after alleged assault of employee

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Police in Las Vegas say rapper Fetty Wap was arrested after allegedly assaulting three employees at a hotel.



Wap

Police say the 28-year-old whose real name is Willie

Maxwell was arrested Sunday morning on three counts of battery.

Local news reports say he hit a parking attendant after getting into an argument. Police originally said Wap hit an employee

but later said he "committed a battery" on three.

Fetty Wap performed at the MTV Video Music Awards last week. He was arrested in November 2017 and charged with DUI after police say he was caught drag racing another car on a New York City highway.

Harry Potter removed from Tennessee Catholic school library

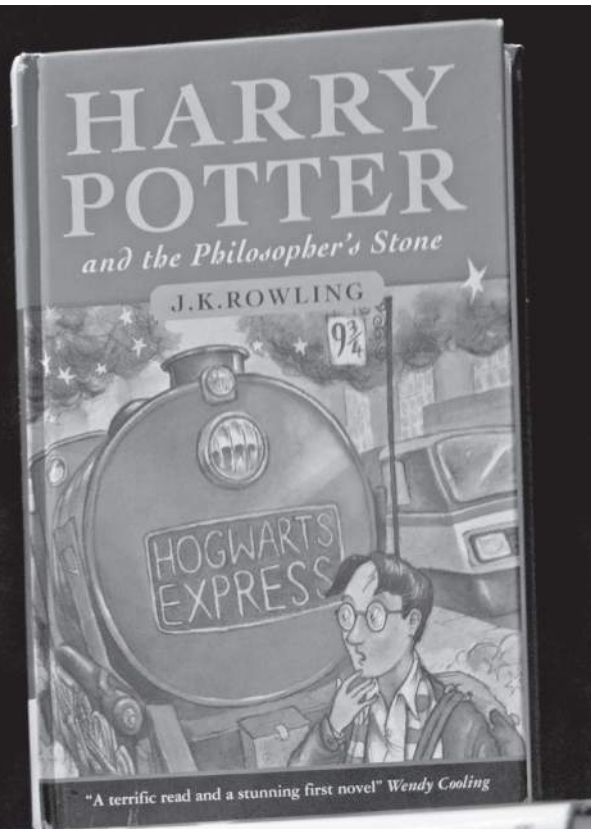
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A Catholic school in Tennessee has removed the Harry Potter books from its library after the school's priest decided they could cause a reader to conjure evil spirits.

In an email obtained by The Tennessean, the Rev. Dan Reehil of Nashville's St. Edward Catholic School said he consulted exorcists in the U.S. and Rome who recommended removing the books.

Reehil wrote, "The curses and spells used in the books are actual curses and spells; which when read by a human being risk conjuring evil spirits into the presence of the person reading the text."

Catholic Diocese of Nashville superintendent Rebecca Hammel said Reehil has the final say at his school.

Hammel said she thinks the books by J.K. Rowling are still on the shelves of other libraries in the diocese.



Late-night surprise damages dad-and-daughter relationship

DEAR ABBY: My 20-year-old daughter recently caught me "actively engaged" in watching porn. I tried to do it late at night when I thought everyone was asleep. My daughter now thinks I'm a pervert.

Her mother raised her with conservative beliefs about any expression of sexuality. I'm worried about her ability to make a future marriage work, and I want the wonderful relationship we shared back. Some people have suggested that as she matures and becomes more aware of the real world, she'll come around. But I'm a relatively old 58 to have a child her age, and I don't want to wait until I'm gone for her to "come around." What can I do?

MISSING MY BABY GIRL

DEAR MISSING: Your baby girl isn't a baby; she's a young adult woman. Most individuals are uncomfortable with the idea of their parents as sexual beings despite the glaring evidence to the contrary. She may have reacted the way she did because she was embarrassed by what she saw.

Do not broach the subject of what her marriage may be like if and when she marries, because it's really her affair, not yours. Apologize for the unfortunate turn of events, and use this as an opportunity to be more careful in the future.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, a good friend invited me along on a six-night trip to Waikiki. We shared the same hotel room. He slept in the king-size bed; I slept on the pull-out sofa in the living room area.

I ended up getting bed bugs and figured out where I got them from when I got back to my apartment in Los Angeles. When I told my friend what happened, he immediately said he didn't want to be involved or be a part of this. Then he began emailing and texting me saying that if I filed a claim, he would be banned by the hotel chain and lose his gold member points. Then he began blaming me and asked how I knew I didn't get them from a movie theater or maybe the airplane or even a well-known coffee chain I go to. Now he won't return my phone calls, emails or text messages. I am shocked and feel hurt and confused.

BITTEN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BITTEN: I understand why you are shocked and hurt, but please don't be confused. Your former good friend values his gold membership status more than he does your friendship, which speaks volumes about his priorities. While he isn't wrong that you could have picked up the bedbugs on the plane or in a movie theater—bedbugs are all over the place and hard to get rid of—if he was a true friend, he wouldn't be ghosting you now.

Call the hotel and explain what happened. Give them the room number so they can investigate and possibly prevent another guest from having the same experience you did.

DEAR ABBY: I am 70 years old. Because of a combination of good luck, good genes and years of exercising and eating right, I look OK for my age. Many of my friends have not been

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



so fortunate and haven't aged well.

When I see someone that I haven't seen in a long time, often they will say, "You look great." Can you please give me a good reply? I say, "Thank you," but that doesn't seem to be enough. "You look great, too" seems inappropriate. Please help.

GOOD RESPONSE IN THE SOUTH

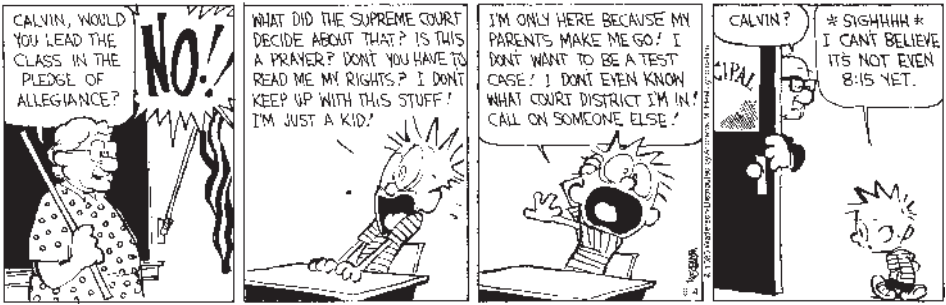
DEAR GOOD RESPONSE: Instead of "You look great, too," try this: "Oh, my. You're a sight for sore eyes! How long has it been?"

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



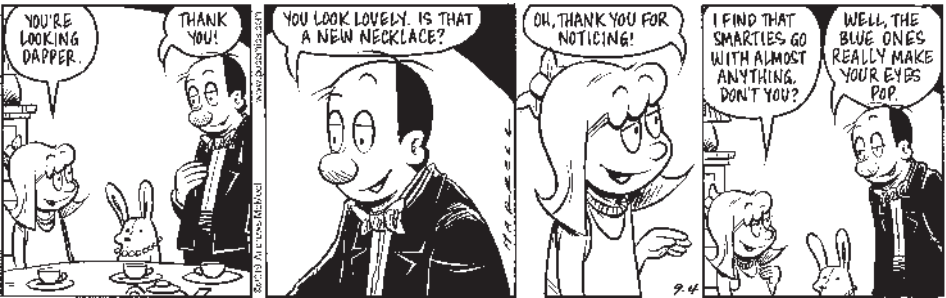
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



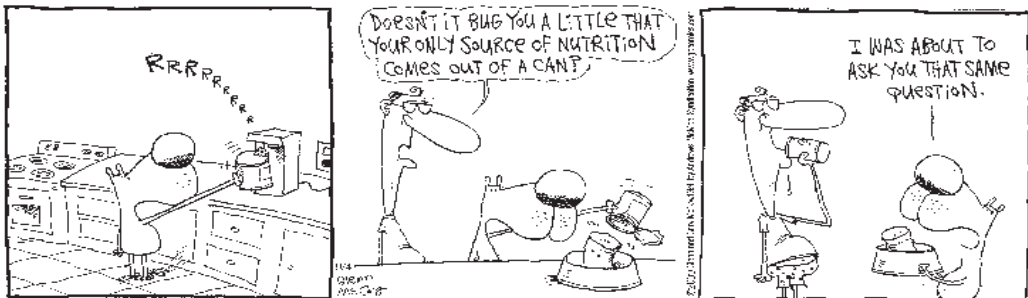
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

43 German conjunction

5 Joan of —

8 Black, in verse

12 Vicinity

13 Sheepish remark

14 Boy, in Barcelona

15 NASCAR repair breaks

17 Numbered rds.

18 Soft hue

19 Pass by

21 Six, in Sicily

22 Meditative practice

23 "Humbug!"

26 Flavor enhancer, for short

28 Rife with bacteria

31 Skip

33 Weed whacker

35 Swizzle

36 Sum

38 Capote nickname

40 Serena, to Venus

41 Sty chow

DOWN

1 Dogpatch creator

2 La Scala solo

3 Reply to "Shall we?"

4 Spars

5 Do away with

6 Knock

7 Mudville slugger

8 Angers

9 Small movie roles

10 Singles

11 Plane part

16 Abound

20 Yule fuel

23 Automaton, for short

24 Latin word

25 Broadway's "Hamilton," and the like

27 Inherited

29 Roman 1002

30 Decade parts (Abbr.)

32 Everest adjective

34 Blew one's top

37 Singer Rawls

39 Squad

42 Trattoria offering

44 Snow formation

45 Hawaiian coast

46 Fortas and Lincoln

48 Taj Mahal city

49 "— she blows!"

50 Jazzy James

53 Charged bit

Solution time: 23 mins.

CLUE KIT HOLY
AERO NNE AREA
DENDRITE NEAR
SRS UFO ADOBN
ODE BMW
SAVVY DIOPAWA
OPIE JUB IBIS
BEAPHLC STUCK
WIG ALC
CHART PSA KEN
HOPI CONTRITE
EDIT ORC YETI
ZAVE PER EVEL

Yesterday's answer 9-4

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Whitney Cummings, 37; Beyonce Knowles, 38; Wes Bentley, 41; Drew Pinsky, 61.

Happy Birthday: Make the most out of whatever you have to work with. Live in the moment, express your feelings and expectations, and surround yourself with people who will add to your life journey. Recognize if someone is asking for too much or taking advantage of your generosity, skills and helpful attitude. Call the shots, and see how far you can go. Your numbers are 3, 11, 17, 22, 25, 36, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Go over your assets, possessions, debts and any pending contracts, settlements or decisions that need to be addressed. Refuse to let someone make decisions for you. Do what fits your itinerary instead of always accommodating other people's needs. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Strive for perfection, and you will be happy with the results. A change is overdue, and with the right people, you should be able to reach your goals. A business trip, meeting or partnership will help you excel. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An opportunity will not be as puffed up as you are led to believe. Ask questions, take a wait-and-see approach, let someone else go first but most of all, protect your heart, money and personal information. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at the choices you have, and do what's best for yourself. Accommodating others will leave you feeling cheated. It's time to take care of your needs; strive for what makes you happy. Personal improvements and romance are favored. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Question offers and options. Following what someone else decides to do and hoping for the best will leave you with little to show for your effort. Explore avenues that show promise and allow you to accentuate what you do best. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to let anyone stifle your dreams. Be vocal, and take physical action to ensure you get what you want. Your success and your happiness are up to you. Don't give anyone the right to make decisions for you. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Recognize your boundaries and the people who are cheering for you — and those who aren't. Having a well-rounded view of your situation will encourage you to make decisions that will eliminate some of the stress you are undergoing. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get on with what's important to you. Size up your situation, make the changes that will make your life better and focus on who and what's meaningful to you. Romance will improve your personal experience and living arrangements. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look at the logistics of a situation before you decide to take part in something questionable. Be careful not to give someone a false impression regarding the way you feel or what you are willing to contribute. Honesty is essential. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your effort will not be in vain. Plug away at whatever challenge you take on, and your tenacity will help you reach your target. Fitness, physical improvements and nurturing essential relationships will lead to a better life. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional matters will surface if someone has been manipulative or has spent money on things that aren't necessary. Try to work through any disagreements you have by using reason. If you make a fuss, nothing will be resolved. Keep the peace. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Pitch in and help. The more you do for others, the more you will receive in return. Set high standards, and live up to what's expected of you. Walk away from people who don't share your values. Romance is on the rise. *****

Birthday Baby: You are determined, engaging and strong-willed. You are passionate and helpful.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18						19	20			
			21			22				
23	24	25		26		27	28		29	30
31			32	33		34	35			
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45	46					47		48	49	50
51				52	53					
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	8	6	5							
			6	9	8	2	3			
		9				1				
		1						5		
		8				9	4	3		
	9	7	3		4	8			6	
8	6		4	3						1
1			9			6	2			
	7	5								

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/04

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

6	4	3	9	8	2	5	1	7
5	1	2	6	7	3	8	4	9
8	9	7	5	1	4	2	6	3
2	6	9	8	4	1	3	7	5
1	7	5	3	6	9	4	2	8
4	3	8	7	2	5	1	9	6
7	5	4	2	9	8	6	3	1
3	2	6	1	5	7	9	8	4
9	8	1	4	3	6	7	5	2

9/04

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PERSONAL GUIDANCE

Solution: 5 letters

C R S T R A N S L A T I O N S
O O E A S O L U T I O N S S E
M N N C E N Y N M I N D T S R
M X O N O D E B A E F C E T V
U A S I E M I W C S A E S U I
N L P M T C M I S P S V N D C
I E E A S P T E M O E I E E E
C R E R G C E I N O E E S N B
A R C B A R O C O D K W T T P
T E H R O E A O R N A U E I A
I S P T R N L S P E P T S P I
O U C A L M D C P N P S I S N
N O C S N O I N I P O O W O T
D P S Y C H O L O G Y K H S N
S S E N E R A W A N S W E R S

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9/4

Answers, Assist, Awareness, Benefits, Bond, Calm, Care, Clear, Communication, Connection, Doctor, Gossip, Grasp, Hope, Ideas, Impacts, Input, Mind, News, Opinions, Paint, Perception, Practice, Psychology, Recommendation, Relax, Remedy, Scoop, Seek, Sense, Service, Solutions, Speech, Spouse, Student, Tips, Translations, Treatment, View, Wise
Yesterday's Answer: Worshipped
Treasures 13 through 18 and 20 through 34 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 24 months experience
• Knowledge in using hand and power tools

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(40) Masons 7.57 to 8.25 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints. Check the forms that hold the concrete to see that they are properly constructed. Set the forms that hold concrete to the desired pitch and depth, and align them. Spread, level, and smooth concrete, using rakes, shovel, hand or power trowel, hand or power screed, and float. Monitor how the wind, heat, or cold affect the curing of the concrete throughout the entire process. Mold expansion joints and edges, using edging tools, jointers, and straightedge.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 03 months experience
• Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

KURI ENTERPRISES, INC.
DBA KURI-YA JAPANESE CUISINE
P.O. BOX 501719 CK, SAIPAN MP 96950

ONE (1) FOOD PREPARATION WORKER
Duties/Responsibilities:
• Clean and sanitize work areas; Clean all kitchen equipment, utensils, dishes and silverwares; Prepare variety of foods such as meat, vegetables or desert according to customer's orders or supervisor's instruction following approved procedures; Store supplies or goods in the kitchen or storage areas; assist the Head Cook in preparing orders from customers; Monitor inventory of stocks and report to the Head Cook as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Must be familiar with different types of Kitchen Equipment in a Japanese Cuisine
- Must have 3 months experience in Japanese Food Preparation
- Must be a High School Graduate or Equivalence

INTERESTED APPLICANTS:
- SUBMIT APPLICATION LETTER OR RESUME AT THE RESTAURANT FROM 4:30 PM TO 11:00 PM – Monday to Saturday or send resume via email at CERVANTES_VG@YMAIL.COM;
- Please check the CNMI Department of Labor site or call 670 2345878 or visit us during store hours and look for Tsukasa Kuribayashi for inquiries.

KURI ENTERPRISES IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) Heavy Equipment Mechanic \$8.73 to \$10.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Operate and Inspect Machines and Heavy Equipment, Trucks and vehicles to Diagnose Defects. Clean, Lubricate, and perform other routine maintenance work on Heavy equipment, Trucks and vehicles. Repair or Overhaul Machines, Heavy Equipment, Trucks, and Vehicles then test to ensure operating efficiency. Perform other related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High school graduate
At least 24 months experience as Heavy Mechanic is required

All interested applicants can submit resume at usafanter.operations@gmail.com or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site — marianaslabor.net

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ITS CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Civil Engineering Technician \$14.18 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of the Operating Manager. Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects to ensure conformance with specifications. Confer with supervisors.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• Associate Degree in Civil Engineering
• Minimum 24 months experience
• Civil Engineering license or equivalent

All interested applicants can send resume to info@itscorporation.net Or visit our office P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website—marianaslabor.net

ITS CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(25) Heavy Equipment Operators, \$8.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Operate one or several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concrete or other hard surface pavement. Learn and maintain equipment in addition to other duties. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Locate underground services, such as pipes or wires, prior to beginning work. Monitor operations to ensure that health and safety standards are met. Adjust hand wheels and depress pedals to control attachments, such as blades, buckets, scrapers, or swing booms.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 12 months experience
• Knowledge in operating and controlling power construction equipment and in monitoring of gauges, dials or other indicators to make sure that the equipment is working properly.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(03) Painter Helper 10.83 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help painters, paperhangers, plasterers, or stucco masons by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Clean work areas and equipment. Perform support duties to assist painters, paperhangers, plasterers, or masons. Apply protective coverings, such as masking tape, to articles or areas that could be damaged or stained by work processes. Erect scaffolding. Fill cracks or breaks in surfaces of plaster articles or areas with putty or epoxy compounds.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 03 months experience
• Knowledge in painting works.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

KURI ENTERPRISES, INC.
DBA KURI-YA JAPANESE CUISINE
P.O. BOX 501719 CK, SAIPAN MP 96950

ONE (1) HEAD COOK
Duties/Responsibilities:
• Prepare, season, and cook dishes such as soup, meat, vegetables or dessert upon order by patrons; Ensure freshness of food and ingredients by checking the quality of food items, keeping track of old and new items; Bake, roast, broil and steam meat, fish, vegetables and other food items; Instruct cook helper to portion, arrange, and garnish food being served to customers and supervise them accordingly; Observe and test the food to determine if they have been cooked sufficiently using methods necessary; May order supplies and keep records to be use in pricing; Analyze recipes to assign prices to menu items, based on food, labor and overhead cost; Recruit and hire staff such as cook helpers and others as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- High school graduate or equivalence
- Must have 12 months experience in cooking Japanese variety of foods;
- Must be familiar with different Japanese Kitchen Equipment.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS:
- SUBMIT APPLICATION LETTER OR RESUME AT THE RESTAURANT FROM 4:30 PM TO 11:00 PM – Monday to Saturday or send resume via email at CERVANTES_VG@Y-MAIL.COM;
- Please check the CNMI Department of Labor site or call 670 2345878 or visit us during store hours and look for Tsukasa Kuribayashi for inquiries.

KURI ENTERPRISES IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

TWO (2) Rolling Machine Setter, Operator and Tender \$13.92 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Set up, operate, or tend machines to roll steel forming bends, beads, knurls, rolls, or plate or to flatten, temper or reduce gauge of material. Inspect machine and conduct preventive maintenance. Have inspected materials and products for defects, and to ensure conformance to specifications. Set up machine to ensure items manufactured or produced meet customers' specifications. Direct or accomplish the threading or feed sheets or rods through rolling mechanisms or start and control mechanisms that automatically feed steel into rollers. Direct or accomplish the packaging, fastening or stacking of end product for proper storage or delivery. Accomplish other related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High school graduate
At least 12 months experience as Rolling machine, setter, operator and tender is required

All interested applicants can submit resume at usafanter.operations@gmail.com or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site — marianaslabor.net

USA Fanter is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer

ITS CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Customer Service Representative - \$9.26 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Confering with customers by phone or in person to provide information about products or services, take or enter orders, cancel accounts, or obtain details of complaints; checking to ensure that appropriate changes were made to resolve customer's problems; keeping records of customer interactions or transactions ; customer service or billing complaints by performing activities such as exchanging service, refunding money or adjusting bills, and completing contract forms, preparing documents or issuing service discontinuance orders using computers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School graduate or GED
• Minimum 12 months experience
• Computer knowledge
• Valid CNMI driver's license

All interested applicants can send resume to info@itscorporation.net Or visit our office P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website—marianaslabor.net

ITS CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(12) Mechanics \$7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, refline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 24 months experience
• Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(05) SERVICE TECHNICIAN-\$10.58 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40hrs.a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports. Cut or drill holes in walls or floors to accommodate the passage of pipes. Perform rough-ins, repair and replace fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or remove leaking or broken pipes. Assist pipe fitters in the layout, assembly, and installation of piping for air, ammonia, gas, and water systems. Cut pipe and lift up to fitters. Fit or assist in fitting valves, couplings, or assemblies to tanks, pumps, or systems, using hand tools. Requisition tools and equipment, select type and size of the pipe, and collect and transport materials and equipment to work site. Mount brackets and hangers on walls and ceilings to hold pipes, and set sleeves or inserts to provide support for pipes. Excavate and grade ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service. Disassemble and remove the damaged or worn pipe.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate;
• At least 12 months experience
• Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CFPJ Corporation
(18) Maintenance & Repair Workers, General
\$8.33/per hr.

Interested applicants,
pls call 235-2375
email: cfpjcorp.2014@yahoo.com

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) SALES PERSON - \$8.57 to 8.88 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Sell merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles and parts, appliances, or apparel to consumers. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Recommend, select, and help locate or obtain merchandise based on customer needs and desires. Compute sales prices, total purchases, and receive and process cash or credit payment. Prepare merchandise for purchase or rental. Answer questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 12 months experience
• Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site —Marianaslabor.net.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Maintenance Technicians \$8.33 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting, boiler making, insulating, welding, machining, carpentry, repairing electrical or mechanical equipment, installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment, and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary. Repair machines, equipment, or structures, using tools such as hammers, hoists, saws, drills, wrenches, or equipment such as precision measuring instruments or electrical or electronic testing devices.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 12months experience.
• Knowledge in using hand and power tools such as cordless power drills, power circular saws and pullers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CURRY ENTERPRISES, LLC
1 CHEF AND HEAD COOK
starting salary \$13.87 to \$19.00

Interested applicants,
pls call 233-3372
email: mabang1521@gmail.com

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Three (03) Auto Technicians 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, refline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 24 months experience.
• Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Mechanics 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, refline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 24 months experience.
• Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670) 234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

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Rangers deal Yanks 1st shutout in 221 games



NEW YORK

(AP)—During the month leading up to the July 31 trade deadline, Mike Minor heard often he might wind up pitching in the Bronx.

Whatever the Yankees had in mind, this certainly wasn't it.

Minor and two relievers became the first pitchers in 221 tries to shut out New York's vaunted lineup, helping the Texas Rangers to a 7-0 victory over the AL East leaders Monday.

"He almost made it look easy," Rangers manager Chris Woodward said.

The Yankees had the second longest streak without being blanked since at least 1900 behind a 308-game stretch by the Babe Ruth-led Yankees from 1931-33. New York was previously shut out June 30, 2018, by Chris Sale and the Red Sox.

Jose Trevino—a first-time batterymate with Minor—Delino DeShields and Shin-Soo Choo homered to back Minor (12-8), a resurgent All-Star who allowed five hits over 7 1/3 innings. The left-hander struck out five, walked one and threw 111 pitches before being pulled with two on in the eighth.

"He's nasty, man," Yankees outfielder Clint Frazier said. "His fastball plays up, which means it might say 92 but it feels faster than that, and he obviously threw every pitch that he wanted in every count that he wanted."

Shawn Kelley replaced Minor and retired DJ LeMahieu and Aaron Judge to end the eighth. Emmanuel Clase shut down the heart of the order in the ninth to end New York's streak of 220 games with at least a run.

The 31-year-old Minor was drilled on the backside by LeMahieu leading off the first, but recovered to make that out and many more after. He allowed just one runner past second base.

"It felt like he could execute pretty much any pitch in any location," Woodward said. "With his stuff, he's got elite stuff at times, when you get that plus the command, it's tough."

Astros 3, Brewers 2, 10 innings

In Milwaukee, George Springer's home run in the 10th inning, which followed a game-tying homer by Christian Yelich in the ninth, lifted Houston over the Brewers.

The long balls overshadowed a 14-strikeout performance by Astros starter Gerrit Cole.

With Houston leading 2-1, Yelich led off the ninth with his 43rd home run of the season, a solo shot on a 0-2 pitch from



AP
Texas Rangers pitcher Mike Minor delivers during the first inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, Monday, Sept. 2, 2019, in New York.

four hits. He struck out one and did not walk a batter in a 96-pitch stint. Carlos Martinez picked up his 18th save in 21 chances.

Cubs 5, Mariners 1

In Chicago, Kyle Schwarber had a three-run triple to highlight a five-run seventh, and the Cubs snapped a 24-inning scoreless streak, rallying to beat Seattle.

Anthony Rizzo went 2 for 2 and drove in a run for Chicago, which remained 3½ games behind the St. Louis Cardinals in the NL Central.

Matt Wisler (3-3) took the loss.

David Phelps (2-0) pitched a scoreless seventh inning. Duane Underwood Jr. and Brad Wieck closed it out.

Diamondbacks 14, Padres 7

In Phoenix, Josh Rojas, Eduardo Escobar and Christian Walker homered in the sixth inning off converted infielder Javy Guerra and Arizona beat San Diego.

The Diamondbacks have won seven of eight. The Padres had won three of four.

Rojas also doubled and singled twice and Ketel Marte drove in four runs for the Diamondbacks.

A six-run second inning put the Diamondbacks comfortably ahead for good, helped by a wild pitch and throwing error.

Indians 11, White Sox 3

In Cleveland, Carlos Santana homered, Franmil Reyes had a three-run double and the Indians defeated Chicago.

Santana hit his team-leading 32nd home run with one out in the sixth and had an RBI single in the seventh.

Reyes' first-inning drive to the wall in left-center gave Cleveland the lead after Chicago starter Ross Detwiler walked the bases loaded.

Dodgers 16, Rockies 9

In Los Angeles, Joc Pederson homered twice and drove in five runs before running into the right-field wall on a spectacular catch in the fifth inning. Gavin Lux scored three runs in his major-league debut, and the Dodgers routed Colorado.

The Dodgers slugged seven homers. They pounded out 17 hits, two off their season high.

Lux started at second base, going 2 for 5 with a single in his first at-bat and a double in his next.

September scramble: Playoff spots, intriguing plots

All-Star ace Luis Severino heating up in the bullpen, maybe. Gavin Lux making his debut, Bruce Bochy saying farewell.

Plus playoff spots and seeding.

Major League Baseball is heading toward a September scramble, a perfect setup for what's on deck this fall. The postseason begins Oct. 1 with the NL wild-card game. But plenty to sort out before then, with Max Scherzer, Javier Báez, Bryce Harper and more in the mix.

Severino is among several

injured stars, who could make a difference down the stretch, and beyond.

The 21-year-old Lux is part of the call-up crop after hitting almost .400 in Triple-A for the Dodgers. Bochy is set to manage his last game when the Giants close the season.

And remember: Last year, Game No. 162 wasn't enough decide things, because tiebreakers were needed to determine two division champions.

Across the board, a stacked lineup in this final month.

Imagine the Yankees with a healthy Severino and Dellin

Betances in the bullpen, along with sluggers Giancarlo Stanton and Edwin Encarnacion. Quite a boost, right?

All over the majors, contenders have their fingers crossed that top players on the injured list can come back and contribute.

Cleveland would look pretty formidable if ace Corey Kluber could pitch alongside Carlos Carrasco. The Indians need pop from ailing José Ramírez, too.

The Rays hope Cy Young winner Blake Snell and Tyler Glasnow can return while the Astros are waiting for Carlos

Correa and Ryan Pressly.

Dodgers slugger Max Muncy, Milwaukee sparkplug Keston Hiura and Atlanta outfielder Nick Markakis are looming. The Mets are still thinking about Jed Lowrie. An All-Star infielder with 99 RBIs for Oakland in 2018, he hasn't played this season because of several injuries after signing a \$20 million, two-year contract.

"When guys have missed so much time, it's tough to say this day they're going to be here, ready to go," Mets manager Mickey Callaway said.

reliever Roberto Osuna (4-3).

Osuna later committed a throwing error that left runners at first and second. But he escaped with an inning-ending strikeout of pinch-hitter Travis Shaw.

Mets 7, Nationals 3

In Washington, Noah Syndergaard struck out 10 while allowing three hits over seven shutout innings and Jeff McNeil hit a two-run homer as New York topped the Nationals.

The loss ended Washington's four-game winning streak and denied the Nationals from moving 20 games over .500 for the first time this season.

Syndergaard (10-7) allowed a leadoff single to Trea Turner, then retired the next 16 batters in his first start since yielding a career-high 10 runs against the Cubs on Wednesday.

Rays 5, Orioles 4

In St. Petersburg, Tommy Pham hit an RBI single with

two outs in the 10th inning and Tampa Bay won its fifth straight game.

The Rays held their narrow lead atop the AL wild-card race.

Pham's third hit of the game came off Dillon Tate (0-1) after Joey Wendle walked with one out and moved up on a grounder. He also had a two-run double.

Colin Poche (4-4) pitched one inning for the win.

Twins 4, Tigers 3

In Detroit, Max Kepler's two-out, two-run single in the eighth inning lifted AL Central-leading Minnesota.

Trailing 3-2, Minnesota started the eighth with two singles off Buck Farmer (5-6). He retired the next two batters, but Ehire Adrianza's infield single loaded the bases for Kepler. Matt Hall relieved and Kepler lined his single to center field.

Zack Littell (3-0) got

the win and Taylor Rogers worked a perfect ninth for his 22nd save.

Braves 6, Blue Jays 3

In Atlanta, Josh Donaldson and Johan Camargo hit two-run homers and Mike Soroka snapped a streak of eight starts without a win in the Braves' victory over Toronto.

The NL East-leading Braves have won five straight, all against American League teams. The Braves also have won nine straight home games.

Soroka (11-3) allowed three runs on five hits in five innings in his first win in three starts against Toronto. Mark Melancon threw a perfect ninth inning for his ninth save.

Phillies 7, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Rhys Hoskins drove in three runs with two homers and Bryce Harper and Scott Kingery added two-run shots as Philadelphia over-

powered the Reds.

Harper extended his hitting and scoring streaks to 10 games.

Philadelphia starter Drew Smyly (3-6) tied his season high with eight strikeouts while earning his first win in six starts. He gave up four hits, one run and three walks in 5 1/3 innings.

Cardinals 3, Giants 1

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright tossed seven scoreless innings and Kolten Wong delivered a run-scoring triple to lead the Cardinals over San Francisco.

Paul DeJong had an RBI single for the Cardinals, who have won 10 of 12. They stretched their lead over the Chicago Cubs in the NL Central 3½ games.

Mauricio Dubon hit his first major league homer for San Francisco, which has lost six of seven.

Wainwright (10-9) allowed

Osaka ousted; Nadal reaches quarterfinals

NEW YORK (AP)—Naomi Osaka's achy left knee didn't let her serve without pain, so she didn't practice that key part of her game leading into the U.S. Open. The knee also prevented her from covering the court and preparing for shots the way she'd like.

Those weren't the only reasons that the No. 1-seeded Osaka's 10-match winning streak at the U.S. Open and title defense ended Monday in the fourth round. Belinda Bencic's clean, crisp strokes, struck with the ball still on the rise, contributed plenty to the outcome, too.

Osaka joined 2018 men's champion Novak Djokovic on the sideline before the quarterfinals, exiting with a 7-5, 6-4 loss to the 13th-seeded Bencic under a closed roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium on a rainy afternoon. Djokovic stopped playing in his fourth-rounder Sunday night because of a problematic left shoulder.

"I honestly didn't move well today. You know what I mean? I felt like I was always flat-footed. ... The knee was a little bit annoying in the movement aspect," Osaka said. "But I think that that's something I should have overcome."

As for her powerful serve, Osaka called it "inconsistent," saying she hadn't been working on it coming into the year's last Grand Slam tournament "because I can't really land on my leg that great."

Osaka has been wearing a black sleeve on the knee and was given a pain-killing pill by a trainer midway through the second set Monday.

By then, Bencic was up a set and a break, employing a quick-strike style of taking balls early and snapping them back, rushing Osaka and not leaving her not enough time to respond. It worked before: Bencic is now 3-0 against Osaka in 2019.

"I don't have the biggest power. Don't have the most winners or most aces. But I think I can really read the opponent's game well," said Bencic, who will face No. 23 Donna Vekic of Croatia in the quarterfinals. "I definitely try to do that against anyone, not only against her."

Bencic finished with far more winners, 29, than unforced errors, 12, and showed once again that she is a big-match player. She owns a tour-leading nine victories over top-10 opponents in 2019 and is 4-1 for her career against top-ranked players.

Bencic is 22, just a year older than Osaka, but her progress was slowed in recent years by injuries, including wrist surgery.

Back in 2014, when she was



AP
Rafael Nadal of Spain runs to return a shot around the net to Marin Cilic of Croatia during the fourth round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Sept. 2, 2019, in New York

ger Woods throwing uppercuts to celebrate spectacular shots. Nadal's quarterfinal foe will be No. 20 Diego Schwartzman, a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 winner against No. 6 Alexander Zverev, who was undone by 17 double-faults.

"My first serve is still fine. My second serve needs to be worked on," Zverev said. "But I'll deal with it."

No. 24 Matteo Berrettini gave Italy its first U.S. Open men's quarterfinalist since 1977 and made it this far himself for the first time at any major with a 6-1, 6-4, 7-6 (6) victory over Andrey Rublev. Berrettini now plays No. 13 Gael Monfils, who overwhelmed Pablo Andujar 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

Osaka made her breakthrough at Flushing Meadows a year ago, winning her first major championship by beating Serena Williams in a chaotic final that devolved after Williams got into an extended argument with the chair umpire.

Osaka followed that up with a second consecutive Grand Slam trophy at the Australian Open in January. That allowed her to become the first tennis player representing Japan to reach No. 1 in the rankings.

This loss means that Osaka will cede that top spot to No. 2 Ash Barty, who lost her fourth-round match Sunday.

"Right now, I have this feeling of sadness," said Osaka, who lost in the third round at the French Open and first round at Wimbledon, "but I also feel like I have learned so much during this tournament. Honestly, of course, I wanted to defend this tournament."

Another women's quarterfinal will pit No. 25 Elise Mertens of Belgium against No. 15 Bianca Andreescu, a 19-year-old from Canada.

Andreescu got to her first major quarterfinal in just four appearances, defeating American qualifier Taylor Townsend 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 in an entertaining contrast of styles that ended after midnight.

Mertens advanced by beating wild-card entry Kristie Ahn of the U.S. 6-1, 6-1. Ahn carried heavy tape jobs on her right arm and left leg.

Vekic, a 23-year-old from Croatia, reached her first Grand Slam quarterfinal by saving a match point and edging No. 26 Julia Goerges of Germany 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-3.

"I don't even know how I won this match," Vekic said.

17, Bencic became the youngest woman into the U.S. Open quarterfinals since 1997, when another Swiss woman, Martina Hingis, took the title.

Hingis' mother, Melanie Molitor, used to coach Bencic, and five-time major champion Hingis herself has served as a mentor. Bencic said she likes to emulate the way Hingis

used to play, always thinking a move or two—or more—ahead.

"With Melanie, we didn't try to copy Martina's game. We tried to make my own game. And obviously, I know there are similarities, because that's the way Mela-

nie teaches, but it was about making my own strengths and my own game style," Bencic said. "I play, of course, a little bit different than Martina. I think she was even more skilled and smarter on the court and playing more chess. I think I have a little bit less



Federer can be oldest male Slam semifinalist since Connors

NEW YORK (AP)—Roger Federer resumes his bid for his first U.S. Open title in 11 years with a quarterfinal under the lights at night against unseeded Grigor Dimitrov.

The 38-year-old Federer is trying to become the oldest male Grand Slam semifinalist since Jimmy Connors was 39 during his 1991 run at the U.S. Open.

Federer's potential path to the final no longer includes nemesis Novak Djokovic—or anyone else who ever has beaten him on a hard court, for that matter.

That's because Federer is a combined 26-0 on that surface against the players left on his half of the bracket. He is 6-0 on hard courts against Dimitrov, 17-0 against Stan Wawrinka and 3-0 against Daniil Medvedev.

Wawrinka, the 2016 champion in New York, takes on the fifth-seeded Medvedev in the afternoon Tuesday.

Serena Williams will test her right ankle after rolling it and tries to return to the semifinals when she plays Wang Qiang. Elina Svitolina meets Johanna Konta in another women's quarterfinal.

Djokovic praises Wawrinka

Late Sunday night, not long after The Big Three had been reduced to The Big Two in Arthur Ashe Stadium, Novak Djokovic, the No. 1 player in the world, wanted to make sure everyone was aware of the caliber of player who had just ended his US Open.

This was no routine, round-of-16 match you blow right through. The man who drubbed him and his painful left shoulder out of the Open—6-4, 7-5, 2-1 (retired)—was Wawrinka, one of the toughest, hardest-hitting, big-hearted competitors in the sport—and one of the most talented, too.

A three-time Open champion and winner of four of the past five Grand Slams, a man in search of his 17th Slam title, Djokovic made his earliest Open exit since 2006. If there was anything that could assuage his disappointment, it was knowing that he'd fallen to his good friend, Wawrinka, a three-time major winner himself, notwithstanding his No. 23 seed.

"He is a big-matches player," Djokovic said. "He loves to play on the big stage against the best players of the world. It's what got him three Slams and Olympic gold and everything. He struggled himself with a lot of injuries, so he understands. He knows how it is. It's great to see him playing on the highest level."

Wawrinka, for his part, did not disagree.

"For sure it's very special to play the No. 1 player in the world," he said. "Sorry he had to retire to finish the

game like that, but for me, most important is the way I'm playing, the way I'm moving. Tonight I think was really high level. That's the most important."

A 34-year-old Swiss with a regular-guy demeanor, Wawrinka is an elite player who has had the misfortune of being a contemporary of perhaps the three greatest players in the history of tennis—Federer, Rafael Nadal and Djokovic.

For much of his career, Wawrinka has been vaguely cast as Roger Lite—a gifted Swiss with a sweet one-hand backhand—but that greatly diminishes the truth. He is a major player who embraces the greatest challenges. Wawrinka stunned Djokovic in the 2016 US Open final. He has beaten the world No. 1 five times, more than any other player. He won't ever have the Slam resume that Federer and No. 2 Nadal have, but you underestimate at your peril.

Luck's retirement creates opening in AFC South



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—

The popular pick to win the AFC South all offseason had been Andrew Luck and the Indianapolis Colts.

Then Luck retired.

That threw the door wide open in the AFC South, the only division with winning records for three teams last season.

The Colts quarterback heard boos as he walked away from the field Aug. 24, then walked to a podium and made the surprise decision official. The oft-injured star is done at age 29.

"I'm in pain, I'm still in pain. It's been four years of this pain, rehab cycle," Luck said. "It's a myriad of issues—calf strain, posterior ankle impingement, high ankle sprain. Part of my journey going forward will be figuring out how to feel better."

The endless barrage of injuries stripped away his joy for the game and prompted him to walk away so he could enjoy the life he wants.

"There's no doubt when you hear him talk about the cycle of pain and injury and rehab, you can hear that," coach Frank Reich said. "There's a saying in football that everyone knows and everybody lives by: it's next man up. And even though this situation is unique, no one is exempt."

That task now falls to Jacoby Brissett, a fourth-year player whom the Colts acquired two years ago. He went 4-11 as a starter in the 2017 season, and the Colts signed Brissett to a two-year contract extension Monday, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press.

Defending AFC South champ Houston has Deshaun Watson and DeAndre Hopkins along with J.J. Watt back healthy and in his prime.

The Titans lost their playoff spot to the Colts in the regu-



AP
Tennessee Titans running back Derrick Henry, center, is stopped by Houston Texans outside linebacker Jadeveon Clowney (90) and defensive end J.J. Watt (99) during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in Houston.

lar-season finale with Marcus Mariota out, and they protected themselves by upgrading their backup spot.

Get the 4th and Monday newsletter in your inbox.

Expert guide of the week's NFL action, game results and must-see moments.

High expectations

Indy has bulked up its roster around Luck at first, and now Brissett. The Colts can lean on second-year coach Frank Reich and an improved Brissett. They also protected themselves by signing veteran Brian Hoyer as Brissett's backup. All-Pro guard Quenton Nelson solidified an offensive line that allowed the NFL's fewest sacks (18). The Colts have two Pro Bowl tight ends in Eric Ebron and Jack Doyle, a Pro Bowl receiver in T.Y. Hil-

ton, and running back Marlon Mack, who nearly cracked the 1,000-yard mark despite missing four games.

All-Pro linebacker Darius Leonard led the league in tackles as a rookie, and a secondary that has long been a weakness now appears to be a strength. Both Nelson and Leonard achieved such status as rookies.

Defending champs

The Texans are without a general manager while coach Bill O'Brien works to improve an 11-6 record and find a way to win in the postseason after Indianapolis beat Houston on its own field. O'Brien gambled after the preseason ended, trading away two first-round picks to Miami for a package led by left tackle Laremy Tunsil.

That was after signing veter-

an Matt Kalil and drafting Tytus Howard in the first round didn't seem a good enough fix to protect Watson after allowing the most sacks in the NFL last season (62).

Hopkins is coming off a career-best 1,572 yards receiving, second best in the NFL. Watt often looked like a three-time Defensive Player of the Year last season, but the Texans gave up on defensive end Jadeveon Clowney trading him to Seattle. The Texans also revamped half their starting secondary after losing safety Tyrann Mathieu and Kareem Jackson to free agency.

Titans' time

Tennessee has surrounded Mariota with the most offensive talent he has had since being drafted No. 2 overall in 2015, but the Titans are letting him

earn a contract extension after missing three starts in 2018.

With three straight 9-7 seasons, the Titans are tied for fifth best in the NFL in that stretch, but with only one playoff berth to show for it. They want much more after signing wide receiver Adam Humphries and left guard Rodger Saffold in free agency and drafting receiver A.J. Brown.

Mariota is among at least 13 Titans, including six starters, in the final year of their deals. They also have coordinator Dean Pees back for a second season with a unit that was the NFL's third-stringiest scoring defense.

Foles to rescue

The Jaguars believe signing the MVP of the 2018 Super Bowl is the key to fixing a team that finished last in the

AFC South for the second time in three years — most recently just months after playing for the AFC championship. They gave Foles a four-year, \$88 million contract with \$50.125 million guaranteed and paired him with former Eagles quarterbacks coach John DeFilippo as his coordinator.

If they get the quarterback who won four playoff games for Philadelphia over the past two seasons, that could be enough to revive the Jaguars with their strong defense.

They also need running back Leonard Fournette to return to form in a make-or-break season, and left tackle Cam Robinson to heal up quickly after starting camp on the physically unable to perform list.

Order of finish

Titans, Texans, Colts, Jaguars.



FRANCE—

Neymar's decision to join Paris Saint-Germain in 2017 was motivated by a desire to establish himself as the best player in the world, but a troubled time in the French capital has left the Brazilian at risk of wasting the best years of his career.

The closure of the transfer window has finally brought to an end the lengthy saga surrounding the future of the world's most expensive player, who will stay at PSG having failed to get the move back to Barcelona he craved.

His former club could not complete a deal to rescue the 27-year-old from his apparent nightmare in Paris, with Neymar so determined to return that sports daily L'Equipe reported

Transfer saga ends, Neymar to stay with PSG

he offered to pay 20 million euros (\$22 million) from his own pocket towards the fee.

PSG paid 222 million euros (\$264 million at the time) for his services, while committing reported wages of 36 million euros a year.

Yet he has not done nearly enough at the Parc des Princes in two seasons marred by injuries and interrupted by off-field distractions.

In August 2017, the desperation of PSG's Qatari owners to win the Champions League appeared to fit with Neymar's own obsession with emerging from Lionel Messi's shadow and winning the Ballon d'Or.

"I would love for us to meet in two years and see what his value will be compared to

today. At least double," said PSG president Nasser Al-Khelaifi at the time.

However, since moving to the Parc des Princes, Neymar has appeared in barely half of his club's matches.

When he has played he has frequently been brilliant, scoring 51 goals in 58 games. He has won back-to-back league titles and one Ligue 1 player of the year award.

But the Champions League is what really matters, and when it has really mattered in Europe he has been absent. Foot injuries saw him miss three of the four Champions League knockout matches the club have played since his arrival.

Without him, they lost in

the Last 16 to Real Madrid in 2018 and then to Manchester United this year.

After suffering a broken foot for the first time in February 2018, Neymar missed the rest of PSG's season to be ready for the World Cup. Brazil went out in the quarter-finals.

In January this year, Neymar fractured the same foot, missing the crunch part of PSG's season during three more months out.

He has since missed the Copa America with an ankle injury and was accused of raping a Brazilian woman at a Paris hotel in May—the case was dismissed in August by a Brazilian judge.

Neymar has never learned French and has often appeared

too busy with off-field distractions, including throwing lavish birthday parties and making a cameo appearance in his favourite Netflix series.

He remains one of the biggest sporting celebrities on the planet, but he must put the last few months behind him quickly and deliver, otherwise there may well be nobody rich enough who is willing to take a chance on buying him next year.

PSG supporters have made clear their unhappiness towards Neymar, yet those feelings can still change if he brings success on the pitch.

In the boardroom, there is also the realisation of his commercial value—when Neymar arrived, Al-Khelaifi spoke of "a project of two brands:

we're associating the Neymar brand and the PSG brand."

They have since signed major sponsorship and endorsement deals with the likes of Nike, with Neymar's presence alongside Kylian Mbappe playing a major role.

"PSG are a young club who need a big media profile to help them develop. That is what Neymar has brought, just like Zlatan (Ibrahimovic) or (David) Beckham before him," French sports marketing specialist Jerome Neveu told AFP.

Ending the Neymar experiment might have allowed PSG to start afresh, although Mbappe and coach Thomas Tuchel had stated their wish that he stays.

"I like Neymar, I want to keep playing with him, with Kylian and with everyone," said Tuchel recently.

Double sessions to hit interscholastic competitions

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The double session schedule that various schools will implement this school year will affect interscholastic competitions.

Nick Gross, the director for Public School System Student Support Services Athletic Program, said that the initial schedule he created for the different interscholastic sports events will not work because a number

Soccer referee course set



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Referee Britany Wally watches Shirley's Football Club, left, and TanHoldings Football Club players battle for possession during a game in the 2019 NMIFA Youth Spring League at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will be holding a referee course for three days, starting this Saturday.

The course, which will run from Sept. 7 to 9 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville, will be conducted in preparation for the 2019 NMIFA Youth Fall League that will kick off next weekend. It will cover general overview and basic referee skills. Participants will learn about referees' duties; updates on rules changes for the 2019-2020 season; and teamwork and game management. Sessions will

be held both in the classroom (theoretical part) and outdoor (practice) settings.

This Saturday's session will take place from 1pm to 9pm, while Sunday's will run from 1pm to 6pm. The last part of the course that will be held on Sept. 9 will be from 5:30pm to 9pm. Each session will have breaks in between and refreshment and light meals will be provided.

The course is free and open to individuals in the 14 and over age group.

For more information, contact NMIFA at 235-0173. (PR)

CAROL

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someone, booking a hotel with the help of my parents back on Saipan. My coach, Roxanne (Clarke), who is in Fiji, also helped me. This is another big opportunity for me after I joined the Australian Open Juniors," the world No. 128 said.

"I would like to thank my parents, who have been supporting me, my coaches in Fiji, and my sponsor, Head," Lee added.

After her recruiting trips in the U.S., Lee will return to Fiji for a two-week training, which will be her final in the regional facility, as she will turn 18 later this year and won't be eligible to compete in junior tournaments next season.

From Fiji, the Common-

wealth player, who won a gold medal (mixed doubles with Colin Sinclair), in the 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa two months ago, will head to South Korea.

"I have GB1 and G2 tournaments in Korea. I will also train there for weeks," said Lee.

First up for Lee in South Korea is the competition at the Chuncheon Songam Sports Town Tennis Courts in Songam-dong Chuncheon-si from Oct. 28 to Nov. 3. The second and last one is the 2018 Seogwipo Asia/Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Jeju-do scheduled from Nov. 4 to 10. It will be Lee's second time in the Seogwipo competition, as she also joined the singles event of the Grade 1 tournament last year and lost to Japan's Saki Imamura in the first round.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nick Gross, right, officiates a volleyball game between Marianas High School and Tinian Junior Senior High School last June at the MHS Gymnasium.

of schools will have double sessions. The half-day sessions are carried on from last to this new school year, as Super Typhoon Yutu severely damaged multiple campuses on island and repairs are still underway.

"It has recently come to my attention that PSS has an additional two schools that will be on double session so the cur-

rent scheduling my not work," said Gross.

Four schools—Olea Elementary School, San Vicente Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School—had double sessions last school year and will have the same setup, while Kagman Elementary School and Cha-

cha Oceanview Middle School were added on the list.

Gross, who is off-island, as he represented the CNMI to the 20th Oceania Masters Athletics Championships in Queensland, Australia, said that he would update the calendar of sports activities once he returns.

Some of the affected interscholastic competitions include soc-

cer, basketball, volleyball, paddle sports, and track and field.

Meanwhile, Mt. Carmel School athletic director and Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association (CCOPSA) coordinator John Blanco said that CCOPSA will follow the official PSS schedule for their sports competitions this school year.

US faces stiffer opponent in Turkey

With only one current NBA player on the Czech Republic roster (Tomas Satoransky of the Chicago Bulls), it was no surprise to see Team USA roll over them by the final count of 88-67 with Donovan Mitchell's 16 points.

Building off that win against Turkey's National Team on Tuesday won't be nearly as easy.

Like Team USA, the Turkish squad had no problem in their first game of pool play in defeating Japan 86-67, a near-identical score to Team USA's win over the Czech Republic.

And like Team USA, their victory came about due to a

balanced attack that featured 10 different players scoring with Milwaukee Bucks forward Ersan Ilyasova leading the way with a double-double of 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Besides Ilyasova, Turkey's roster includes current NBA players Cedi Osman (Cleveland) and Furkan Korkmaz (Philadelphia) as well former Celtics big man Semih Erden.

Drafted by Boston with the 60th overall pick in the 2008 NBA draft, the 33-year-old

Erden spent two seasons in the NBA - one with Boston and another with Cleveland - while appearing in a total of 69 games before returning to play overseas.

He isn't the only Celtics connection on the Turkish team.

Guards Bugrahan Tuncer and Dogus Balbayrak played last season for Anadolu Efes which was led by ex-Celtic Shane Larkin. And Balby, one of Turkey's better perimeter defenders, was also a teammate of former Celtic Avery Bradley at Texas in addition to attending Brewster Academy in New Hampshire, the same prep school whose alumni include Utah Jazz guard and Team USA

member Donovan Mitchell.

Despite Team USA having a roster full of NBA talent, the players and coaching staff are well aware that there are some advantages that most if not all of the teams competing in the World Cup have over them.

"A lot of these teams have been together for a long time," Gregg Popovich, head coach of Team USA and the San Antonio Spurs, told reporters. "They've played together in many situations, and this is the first time these guys have played together. So, when we see that we're trusting each other, whether it's as Donovan said making an extra pass at the offensive end or playing the defense that we played tonight, it's encouraging."

TSINGTAO

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after making 7 in the opening canto, showed up in the penultimate frame and delivered 11 points to hand the lead back to Max's Restaurant.

However, Max's stay on top was short-lived, as Tsingtao regrouped in the fourth period to keep its perfect record in the 12-team league. Demonte Verde, Jandoc, and Jerald Rivera lifted Tsingtao in the fourth quarter with the latter scoring all his 5 points in that period. Rivera's 5 markers were made in succession, while Demonte Verde hit a pair of free throws for Tsingtao's last 2 points and plus his 7 ear-

lier markers in the final canto, he ended up with a team-high 26. Jandoc contributed 5 points and finished the match with 21.

Lerio paced Max's Restaurant with his 27 points, while Herrera chipped in 26.

Tsingtao Boyz 83—Demonte Verde 26, Jandoc 21, Del Rio 8, Broncano 7, Ariar 6, Rivera 5, Danipog 4, Agbanlog 2, Pineda 2, Giron 1, Alano 1.

Max's Restaurant 78—Lerio 27, Herrera 26, Raynor 10, Salalila 9, Balignasay 2, Tibayan 2, Rotap 1, Loyola 1.

Scoring by quarters: 21-30, 46-37, 64-65, 83-78.

GROSS

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Meanwhile, the 2021 Oceania Area Championships will be held in Vanuatu in May.

Oceania Athletics Association president Geoff Gardner made the announcement about the selection of the host for the regional competition late last month and has expressed confidence with the island's ability to hold a successful competition.

It will be Vanuatu's second time to host the biennial event with the first one in

2001 at the Korman Stadium in Port Vila. The island-nation also had the 2017 Pacific Mini Games and the 2018 Melanesian Regional Championships in its turf.

The area championship will be a good warm-up for the Pacific Mini Games, which will come to the CNMI for the first time. Last year's Oceania Area Championships took place in Townsville, Australia with a record-number of participants—725 athletes and 120 and 110 technical and team officials, respectively.

Rangers deal
Yanks 1st
shutout in
221 games
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Osaka
ousted; Nadal
reaches
quarterfinals
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Carol sets eyes on NCAA Division 1 teams

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Carol Lee has completed her appearance in the U.S. Open Junior Championships yesterday, but will remain in the mainland to shop for a collegiate team.

The CNMI junior player duelled world No. 41 Robin Montgomery of the U.S. and lost in straight sets at the upper half of the singles main draw. Montgomery cruised to a 6-1 victory in the first set before laboring through a 7-5 triumph in the second.

"After this, I will be going to recruiting trips for U.S. ten-

nis colleges Division 1," said Lee, who will check three universities this week.

"I am visiting ASU (Arizona State), LSU (Louisiana State) and AU (American University). But I haven't committed to any college yet," the 17-year-old added.

Lee is on her junior year and taking online classes while training at the International Tennis Federation regional facility in Fiji and traveling to compete in Juniors ITF World Tour events.

The U.S. Open was her latest stop, making her the first CNMI player to compete in the annual event held at the

USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York City.

"I am honored and proud to represent the CNMI in the U.S. Open main draw. I came to NYC all alone and it's my first time doing everything on my own, like organizing my practice with

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LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Carol Lee goes for a baseline return during the second set of her first round match against Robin Montgomery of the United States in the U.S. Open Junior Championships yesterday in New York.



Gross delivers gold

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Nick Gross struck gold in the 20th Oceania Masters Athletics Championships yesterday in Queensland, Australia.

Gross competed in the men's 40 to 44 javelin throw event at the Mackay Aquatic and Recreation Complex and stood out against five Australian athletes. He submitted 49.99 meters to beat the host's Rene Doel for the gold medal, as the latter recorded only 49.11m. Euan McClean completed the podium finish with his 43.16m, while Jamie Muscat (34.34m), Rob Pickering (35.05m), and Shaun Peel (28.15) rounded out the competitors list in the division.

Gross' mark was the best in the entire javelin throw competition, which featured nearly 60 athletes from the 30 to 88 age group. In the men's 30 to 34, gold medalist Steven Cragg had only 42.19m, while men's 35 to 39 winner Norman Turner tallied 38.23m, and 45 to 49 champion Richard Harris posted 35.32. Kevin Galea (50 to 54 winner) registered 41.49m; Dave Varley



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Nick Gross is flanked by two Australian athletes at the medal podium during the awards presentation for the men's 40 to 44 javelin throw event in the 20th Oceania Masters Athletics Championships yesterday in Queensland, Australia.

(55 to 59) recorded 44.43m; Marek Chomow (60 to 64) had 34.89m; Lyle Daniel (65 to 69) submitted 37.11m;

Bob Banens (70 to 74) logged 35.02m; Arniel Delaite (75 to 79) listed 31.67m; Allan Wood (80 to 84) tallied

20.07m; and Jim Blair (over 85) delivered 21.60m).

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Tsingtao extends winning streak to seven

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Tsingtao Boyz defeated Max's Restaurant, 83-78, during a make-up-game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Tsingtao prevailed in seesaw battle to stretch its winning streak to seven, while Max's Restaurant fell to a 1-5 record.

Max's Restaurant took the driver's seat in the first quarter, leading at 30-21. Sonny Lerio led Max's' strong start

after scoring 16 points, while Ogie Herrera added 7.

Tsingtao then turned the tide to its favor in the second quarter after making 25 points. Jet Jandoc and Mark Demon-terverde teamed up in bringing Tsingtao back into the game after recording 9 points each. Their output more than doubled Max's production (7 points), giving Tsingtao the lead at the break, 46-37.

The back-and-forth game resumed in the third quarter, as Max's regained the upper hand, 65-64. Herrera, who was scoreless in the second period

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tsingtao's Jess Pineda takes off for a layup during an earlier game against Connie's BBQ in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.